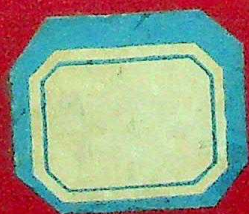


# INDIA INFORMATION

1942

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## INDIAN INFORMATION

July 15, 1942

## MAIN CONTENTS

INDIAN  
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IS A  
REFERENCE  
RECORD

**AIMS:**—To provide a condensed record of the main peace and war activities of the Government of India, together with some outstanding facts about the British Government's war activities. INDIAN INFORMATION does not compete with the Press; it exists for their convenience and is not intended for general circulation among the public.

**PUBLIC:**—All those persons and institutions whose general role is to inform the public, e.g., the public administrator, whether he be governmental (Central or Provincial), municipal, commercial, educational or institutional, the editor, the publisher, the journalist and the publicist.

**FORMAT:**—Headings, sub-titles and bold face passages are inserted to facilitate reading, but they should not in themselves necessarily be considered as expressions of official opinion or emphasis.

**CONTRIBUTIONS:**—Many MSS. are submitted to us which we regretfully return; since everything published in INDIAN INFORMATION emanates from an official source, it follows that non-official contributions cannot be accepted.

Any Item May Be Reproduced Without Acknowledgment.

ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY BY J. NATARAJAN, PRINCIPAL INFORMATION OFFICER,  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA. ASSOCIATE EDITOR, CECILIE LESLIE.

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THE FAMOUS 4TH INDIAN DIVISION  
IN ACTION.



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# • FACTS AND FIGURES •

The War Resources Committee has sanctioned a scheme for the improvement of telegraph and telephone facilities in India at a cost of Rs. 8 crores and has in hand measures to expand facilities and to expedite clearances at ports; to improve the working of transportation in military depots; to expedite the provision of locomotives and rolling stock and to develop road and river transportation.

An expedition of the Archaeological Department, Government of India, working in the Sabarmati Valley in Baroda State, has come across specimens of early stone age, which roughly indicate their age as 50,000 years.

Deposits of crude sulphur discovered in Baluchistan are now being worked by Government. The crude sulphur is carried to the nearest railhead for subsequent transport to other parts of India.

The shipbuilding rate in the United States has never been matched in history. New American ships to the number of 2,300 will ply the seas next year. One shipyard alone is producing a finished ship daily. Because new methods are employed in turning out these new American ships, the Americans can build them in half the time that other nations take. The combined Axis ship production is only a quarter of the present American programme.

A claimant in Nadiad (Bombay Presidency) has successfully claimed from the Indian Post Office monies lying in the Savings Bank accounts of his great-grandfather, grandfather and father. Two of these accounts remained unoperated since 1886 and the third since 1887. Thus they have found a successful claimant after a lapse of more than half a century!

A scheme for the scientific processing of dried fruits on a large scale has been introduced by the North-West Frontier Province Government. The Government of India have agreed to contribute half the capital cost of installing and erecting a plant, subject to a maximum of Rs. 1½ lakhs.

The plant, which is expected to turn out 4,000 tons of dried fruits per year, will include several up-to-date forced draft tunnel dehydrators and sulphur houses and a processing and packing plant, besides accommodation and equipment for receiving, preparing and storing the fruits.

Government took over the business of the Canteen Contractors' Syndicate, Limited, on July 1, 1942.

The Sten machine carbine or tommy-gun, the latest British weapon to be removed from the secret list, has been in quantity production for a considerable time and output has now reached some tens of thousands a week. It is one of the cheapest weapons Britain has yet developed. The ultimate cost will be less than £2. The Sten is one of the production triumphs of this war. It has only 45 parts including the tiniest screws, and they are so easy to make that almost any small-town garage can do it.

Five hundred thousand persons—nearly 50 per cent of the entire Indian population of Burma—have been evacuated to India. The refugees travelled by all kinds of routes, known and unknown. The rough figures are: by land routes into Bengal 200,000; into Assam 200,000; by sea 70,000 and by air 12,000.

In various quarterly periods during the war for which records are available six of H.M.I. ships steamed 143,492 miles, which averages 11,958 miles per ship a quarter. For certain periods the average distance steamed by these ships in three months was 12,730 miles per ship.

The Indian Railway Conference Association was organised in 1879. In those days there was no separate Railway Department of the Government of India and the Director-General of Railways like those of the Posts and Telegraphs which worked as two separate organisations, was an expert adviser to the Government of India.

Well over 100 licensed firms in India are now manufacturing machine tools of various types, ranging from simple drills and lathes to special purpose machines required for munitions production. Their total output runs to 170 machines per month, not including ancillary plant which is produced by the hundred.

The countries that now get aid under Lease/Lend comprise 72 per cent of the total land area of the world having 64 per cent of the entire population of the world.

Indian parachute troops recently went into action for the first time when they took part in the combined military and police drive against the Hurs in Sind.

Twenty-five registration offices have been opened in Madras where refugees from Burma and Malaya can register themselves for employment.

The glow of a cigarette is visible at a much greater height than one would imagine, says a leaflet issued by the A.R.P. Officer, Delhi.

One of the first lessons that the public must be taught in regard to A.R.P. is that there can be no disinterested spectators during an air raid.

Export of cotton piecegoods from India rose by more than Rs. 4½ crores to Rs. 10.64 crores during the year 1940-41, the highest level for more than a decade.

The creation of a huge international 100,000,000-bushel wheat pool to feed the stricken world after the war, is announced by the United States State Department. Preliminary steps in the arrangements for the pool have been agreed to by the greatest wheat-producing nations of the world—the United States, Britain, Canada, Australia and Argentina.

A new 230-mile motor road linking the Provinces of Suiyuan and Ningia in north-west China has now been completed, and it is possible to make the journey by bus in three days.

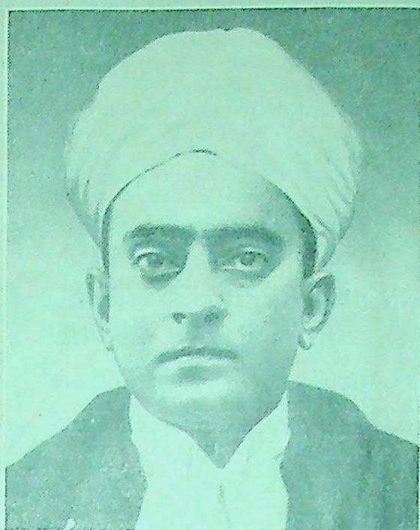
The United States factories are expected to produce war goods to the value of \$45,000,000,000 during the present year.

The grant in India of "Commendations" to civilians—both officials and non-officials—as a form of recognition of brave conduct, particularly for services connected with civil defence, in addition to the existing gallantry and meritorious service decorations has been approved. This follows the practice adopted in the United Kingdom and in the Dominions.

The first recipient of the new award is Mr. Victor Ernest Lazarus, Divisional Electrical Engineer, Vizagapatam, who displayed courage and devotion to duty during the air raid of April 6 on Vizagapatam.

India, too, like Britain, is building up a powerful parachute army in order to meet the Axis menace to the country. Parachutists are drawn from all regiments of the British Commonwealth armies. Any of the British Commonwealth volunteers but he is trained soldier can volunteer but he is to pass a strict test, physical and mental, before he is chosen. There are no age restrictions; in fact, there is a man of 55 in one unit, but most of the men range in age from 20 to the early 30's.





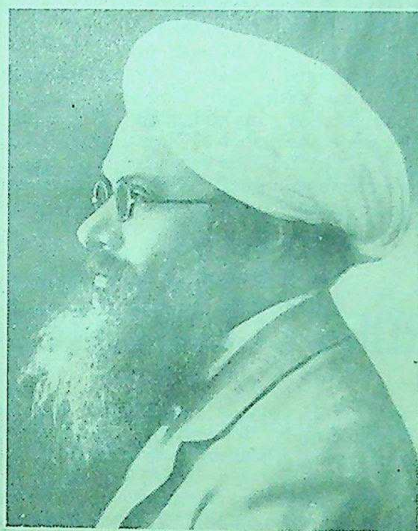
SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI AIYAR



DR. B. R. AMBEDKAR



SIR E. C. BENTHALL



SIR JOGENDRA SINGH



SIR J. P. SRIVASTAVA

KHAN BAHADUR  
SIR MOHAMMAD USMAN

NEW MEMBERS APPOINTED TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

## EXPANSION OF VICEROY'S COUNCIL

**H**is Majesty the King has been pleased to approve the appointment of Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, Sir E. C. Benthall, Sir Jogendra Singh, Sir J. P. Srivastava, K.B.E., and Khan Bahadur Sir Mohammad Usman, K.C.I.E., to the Executive Council of the Governor-General of India.

The following appointments to portfolios have been made by the Governor-General:—

As Member in charge of Information, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar in succession to the late Right Hon'ble Sir Akbar Hydari.

As Member in charge of Civil Defence,

Sir J. P. Srivastava in succession to the late Hon'ble Dr. E. Raghavendra Rao.

As Members for War Transport and for Posts and Air, respectively, consequent on the appointment of Sir Andrew Clow, late Member in charge of Communications, to be Governor of Assam, Sir E. C. Benthall and Khan Bahadur Sir Mohammad Usman.

As Member for Defence, the Hon'ble Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon.

As Commerce Member the Hon'ble Mr. N. R. Sarker, to succeed the Hon'ble Dewan Bahadur Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar (who will remain a member of the Council) on his appointment as a representative of India at the War Cabinet.

As Member in charge of the Department of Education, Health and Lands in succession to the Hon'ble Mr. Sarker, Sir Jogendra Singh.

As Member in charge of the Department of Labour in succession to the Hon'ble Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.

The portfolio of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will in future be designated the War portfolio.

The new Defence Member will be responsible for the work at present discharged by the Defence Co-ordination Department, together with such other matters relating to the defence of India as are not included in the portfolios of War and Civil Defence.



# ELEVEN NON-OFFICIAL INDIANS ON VICEROY'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

For the second time since the out-break of the war the Viceroy's Executive Council has been expanded. The need to create a membership for Defence, to provide for India's representation at the War Cabinet and in the Pacific War Council and to divide the heavy single charge of Communications has involved the addition of three members to the Council's present strength.

As in the previous expansion of 1941, the purpose of the present expansion is to associate representative Indian opinion more closely in the conduct of the war and to provide for the increasing burden of war work, within the framework of the present Constitution.

Membership of the Viceroy's Executive Council has been increased from 12 to 15, with eleven non-official Indians, one non-official European and three European officials (including the Commander-in-Chief). On the outbreak of the war the strength of the Council was seven, with three Indian members. In the July 1941 expansion five new portfolios were created and Indians were placed in charge of them. In the present expansion the Indian majority has been further increased to eleven.

## Representation For Depressed Classes

Six new members have been appointed to the vacancies arising from the deaths of the Rt. Hon'ble Sir Akbar Hydari and Dr. E. Raghavendra Rao, and the appointments of Sir Firoz Khan Noon as Defence Member, Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar to the Pacific War Council and the War Cabinet and Sir Andrew Clow as Governor of Assam and the splitting up of the Communications portfolio into War Transport, and Posts and Air.

The Viceroy's Executive Council as expanded and reconstituted provides for the first time representation for the Sikhs, the Depressed Classes and the non-official European community. With the communities already represented the Council provides a cross-section of the principal communities and interests in India who have shown themselves ready to co-operate in a War Government under the conditions imposed by the existing Constitution.

Geographically, the Council is representative of Madras, Bengal, Bombay, the Punjab, the United Provinces, the Central Provinces and Bihar.

His Highness the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar and Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar, while representing India at the War Cabinet, will have the same status as the representatives of Dominions. Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar, while in London, will continue to be a Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council.

## Defence Portfolio

The following subjects will be included in the Defence portfolio:

- (1) All questions concerning Defence which involve co-ordination of policy and action between the Civil Departments of the Government of India and the work of the War Member. (This was previously in the Governor-General's own portfolio);

- (2) War legislation including the Defence of India Act and Rules made thereunder;
- (3) Demobilisation and post-war reconstruction as far as the Defence Forces and Labour Forces are concerned;
- (4) Manpower, including the administration of the National Service (European British subjects) Act;
- (5) Amenities for and welfare of troops;
- (6) National Defence Council;
- (7) Local Self-Government in Cantonment areas (not being cantonment areas of Indian State Forces), the constitution and powers within such areas of Cantonment authorities, the regulation of house accommodation in such areas, and, within British India, the delimitation of such areas;
- (8) Acquisition, custody and relinquishment of land vested in the Crown for purposes of Defence;
- (9) Co-ordination of the provision, storage, location, transport, etc., of petroleum products of

all kinds including those required by the Defence Forces; and

- (10) Prisoners of War.

The growing problems of transport for defence purposes have necessitated the creation of a new Department dealing with war transport. Its principal responsibility will be the utilisation and development of transport by road and water and the portfolio will include the Railway Board, Ports, Railway Priorities, Petrol Rationing and the development of Producer Gas. Other subjects formerly included in the Communications portfolio, of which the most important are Posts and Telegraphs, Civil Aviation, Motor Vehicles Legislation and the administration of the Central Road Fund, will be included in a second portfolio to be called Posts and Air.

## INDIAN REPRESENTATIVES AT BRITISH WAR CABINET

His Majesty's Government have invited the Government of India if they so desire to arrange for representation of India at the War Cabinet and on the Pacific War Council in London. This invitation has been accepted and the Governor-General in Council has accordingly nominated the Hon'ble Dewan Bahadur Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, K.C.S.I., for this purpose and has suggested to His Excellency the Crown Representative that he should invite a Member of the Order of Princes to join Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar in representing India at the War Cabinet and on the Pacific War Council. His Excellency in consultation with the Governor-General in Council has invited His Highness the Maharaja Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., A.D.C., to serve for the present in this capacity and His Highness has accepted the invitation.

# THE WAR RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Governor-General in Council has considered the Report of the American Technical Mission and has decided to implement its recommendations to the maximum extent possible. In pursuance of one of the most important of these recommendations, a Committee of the Executive Council has been set up to deal with and co-ordinate problems of war production, transportation, communications, finance, rationing of goods and materials, and all connected matters.

This Committee will be known as the "War Resources Committee of Council" and will consist of:—

1. H. E. the Governor-General—*President*.
2. H. E. the Defence Member.
3. The Hon'ble the Supply Member—*Vice-President*.
4. The Hon'ble the Finance Member.
5. The Hon'ble the Commerce Member.
6. The Hon'ble the Communications Member.

The Committee will have a whole-time Secretary. It will meet from day to day, and one of its first tasks will be to push on with the action already taken on the Report. The Committee will, when necessary, co-opt other Members of the Government of India, and its decisions will be binding on all authorities in India.

## Working Of Committee

The President of the War Resources Committee is His Excellency the Viceroy

and his Deputy is the Hon'ble Sir Homi Mody, Supply Member, by whom the chair is occupied in the ordinary course.

The Hon'ble Members for Commerce, Communications and Finance form the body of the Committee and a representative of the Commander-in-Chief, who is constitutionally a Member of the Committee, also attends. It is not yet known whether the expansion of the Viceroy's Executive Council will result in any changes in the composition of the Committee.

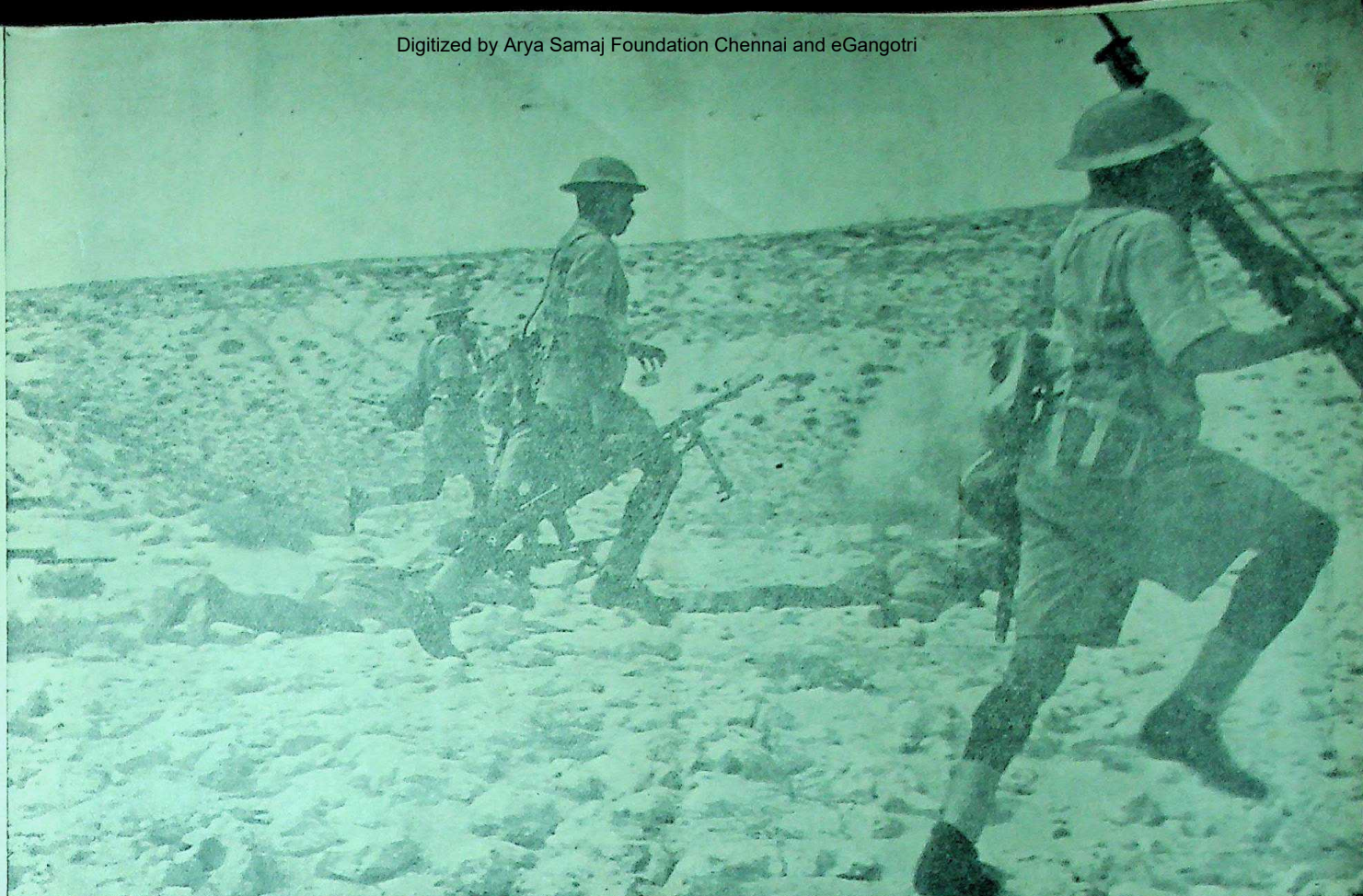
The Committee deals with matters arising out of the Grady Mission Report and those initiated by the various departments or by the Chairman and Secretariat of the Committee. Where departments other than those already represented on the Committee are affected the Hon'ble Member concerned is invited to attend or send a representative.

Decisions of the Committee carry the full authority of the Executive Council and the departments concerned see to their execution. Progress Reports are usually asked for by the Committee in order that it may keep in touch with developments.

The Secretary of the Committee is Lt.-General T. J. Hutton, till recently G.O.C. in Burma and formerly Chief of the General Staff, India, and it is understood that Mr. T. M. S. Mani, I.C.S., of the Communications Department, will shortly assume the appointment of Deputy Secretary.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1942





MEN OF THE FOURTH INDIAN DIVISION ADVANCING IN THE DESERT. THIS DIVISION HAS MADE ITS MARK IN CYRENAICA

## 2. FAMOUS INDIAN REGIMENTS—

By Sir Patrick Cadell

Here is the second of the series of articles on famous Indian Regiments.

# THE 7th RAJPUT REGIMENT

**D**uring the first battle of Keren a battalion of the 7th Rajputs seized strong posts on the Ridge, Brigadier's Peak, and others. Against the superior numbers of the enemy they could not hold on to all the ground they had won, but they clung tenaciously to the Ridge till the arrival of reinforcements enabled them to capture the whole position after seven weeks of fighting.

One Rajput officer commanding a platoon was wounded in the arm. He continued to lead his men until hit in the leg. Then, leaning against a tree, he hurled hand-grenades at the enemy until he was again wounded.

Another Rajput, a non-commissioned officer, climbing a hill for 150 feet under a rain of hand-grenades, stalked a machine-gun post and bayoneted the four machine-gunners. He wiped out another machine-gun post before being killed by a bomb.

The battalions of the 7th Rajput Regiment, at one time exclusively Rajput, have now an admixture of Punjabi Mahomedans and some Pathans as well. That the combination is a happy one is shown by their performance in the present war.

### A Gallant Fight

The battalion at Keren was in Sir Archibald Wavell's force that attacked Italian armies three times its own strength at Nibeewa, and scattered them as far as Benghazi. Then, switched to the Eritrean frontier, it took part in the simultaneous attack on the Italian posts at Barentu and

Agordat; followed the pursuit to the rocky fastnesses at Keren. Five miles from there, alongside Scottish troops, the Rajputs stormed a fort.

Africa is not the only terrain in which the Regiment has already distinguished itself. Another battalion formed part of the devoted garrison of Hongkong, which also included British and Canadians.

They could have had no illusion as to their fate when attacked by land, sea and air by an overwhelming force, on an island in no way defensible against such an onset. Yet the garrison fought on gallantly till lack of water made surrender inevitable.

The Rajputs represent the great warrior section of the four classes into which the Hindus were originally divided. Their main occupation was fighting, and, as warfare was a common occurrence all over India, they were to be found in every part of the country.

### An 18th-Century Victory

It is not surprising, therefore, that they were among the earliest soldiers enlisted in the fighting forces of Madras and Bombay. But when disciplined Indian battalions were formed in Bengal—much nearer their homes in Hindustan—the Rajputs of Upper India formed the major part of the East India Company's Bengal Army, which from the days of Clive onwards won such startling victories.

The battalions of the present Rajput Regiment were not formed in time to take part in the earlier campaigns. The 1st Battalion, however, raised in 1798, shared

in General Lake's victorious campaigns and still carries a third colour inscribed "Lake and Victory."

Many writers have testified to the soldierly spirit, the high sense of honour, and the contempt for death shown by the "beautiful Sepoy regiments," as one of their victorious Generals called them. They saw service in many campaigns, and the battalions of the present Regiment did their full share on the hard-fought battlefields of Afghanistan and the Punjab.

### Heroes Of Famous Siege

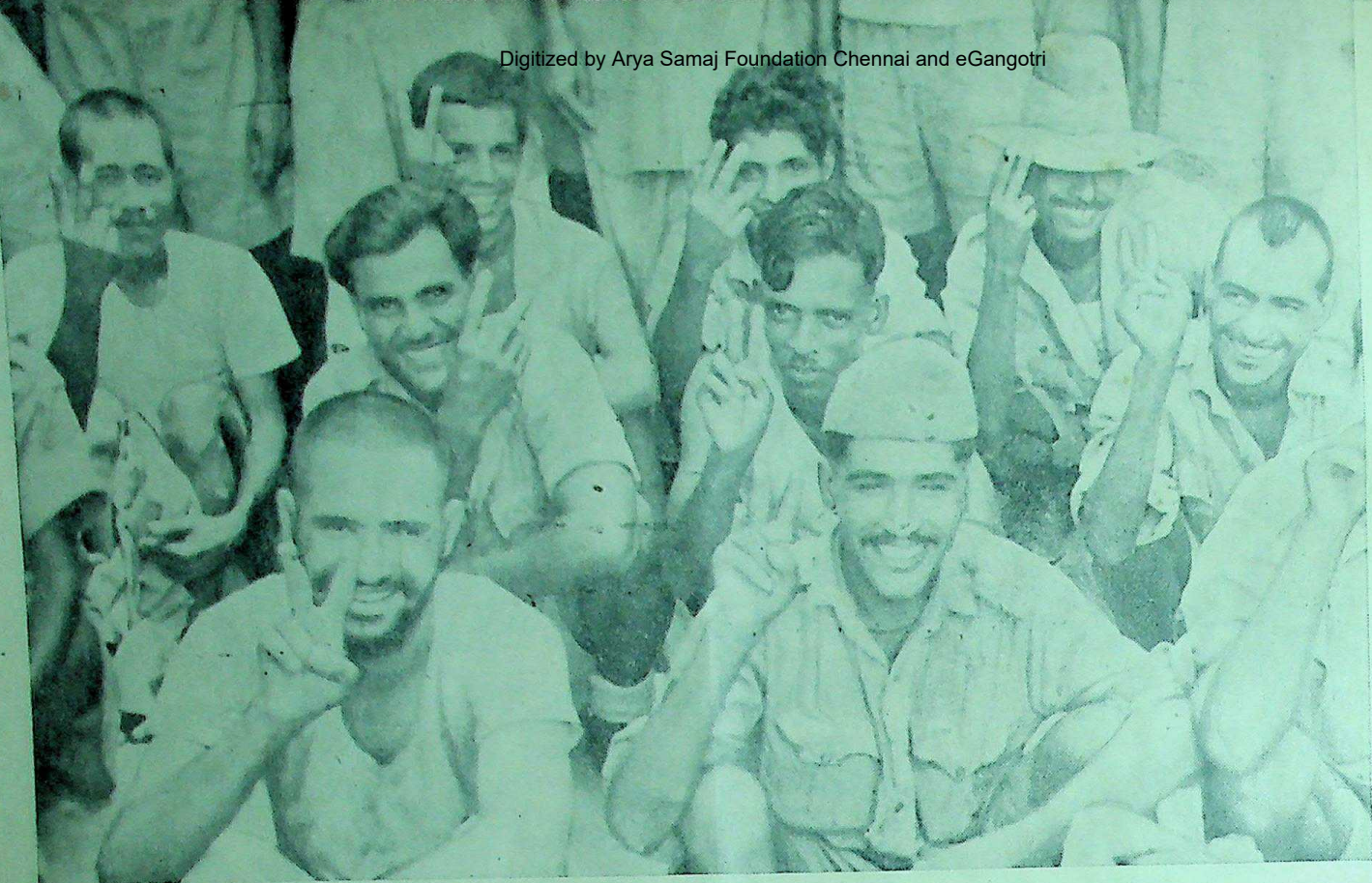
They all continued to do good service in later campaigns, one of them taking part in the battle of Tel el Kebir in a region not very far from the scenes of its latest exploits.

In the war of 1914-1918 the Regiment was so far unlucky in that their service was practically confined to Mesopotamia. Here the 3rd Battalion shared in the successful advance to Ctesiphon and afterwards in the long drawn out siege of Kut.

The General Commanding said that this, with three other Indian battalions, was the sheet-anchor of the defence. Of the 300 men left in it at the time of surrender, only two-fifths lived to return from their cruel captivity. The 1st Battalion, in its effort to relieve its beleaguered comrades, suffered great losses in the all but successful battle at the Dujailah Redoubt.

The sons of these men are worthy successors to their gallant fathers, for wherever they are fighting today they gain fresh honours for the 7th Rajput Regiment.





"V FOR VICTORY" IS THE SLOGAN OF THESE INDIAN SOLDIERS NOW RESTING IN INDIA AFTER THE FIGHTING IN BURMA

## WITH GENERAL ALEXANDER'S ARMY AFTER BURMA BATTLE

Somewhere in India, beyond the din and fury of battle, British and Indian troops of General Alexander's Army are resting after their gallant fight in Burma. In numberless tented colonies, scattered over a quiet and sheltered countryside, both officers and men find much-needed relaxation, awaiting their turn for a spell of leave.

Life at these army rest centres is the nearest approach I have seen to a real holiday camp, writes an Indian Army Observer. Barring the necessary discipline and formalities, the men are permitted to choose their own ways of keeping busy: meals, sleep and games all have their place in the day's programme.

### "Full Of Joy"

Food is plentiful and as varied as ingenuity and local conditions would permit. I drank tea with a Brigadier in an improvised Officers' Mess and on another occasion lunched with a party of Sikhs on chapatties and curry. The experience smacked of a picnic, with its usual lack of ceremony and formal comfort, but full of joy at meeting troops who had seen life in the raw and braved danger for months together. Nearby, on tent-ropes and on the branches of mango trees, towels were hanging to dry: pleasant reminders of a cool, refreshing bath which had once again become a daily event after the trials of Burma.

The men, both British and Indian, talked with unaffected candour of their experiences in Burma. Their reaction to past difficulties had no trace of defeat or ill-humour. I saw a young V.C.O. lurching off a huge plate of boiled rice and curry, and jokingly remarked, "You seem to be enamoured of rice. Haven't you had enough of it?" The man seemed hurt at my query, then gave me a broad smile and replied: "I have eaten plenty of rice, but I can stand a lot more!" The statement appeared to typify the spirit of our men, a cheering remark from one who had not seen his family for two years and had fought through the Burma campaign from start to finish.

I carried a sound recording unit to these camps to take messages from the troops to their families in India and Britain. The men greeted me with unbounded pleasure, particularly the British soldiers, whose eyes shone at the prospect of conveying their voice to their people at home, 6,000 miles away.

The messages were intended to be entirely personal and domestic, but every now and then some one would slip in a remark like, "We shall be back home soon after paying off old scores," or "I have had a long journey, but I am in the pink of condition"—stout words from men who still showed the scars of battle. Most of them started their talk into the microphone with

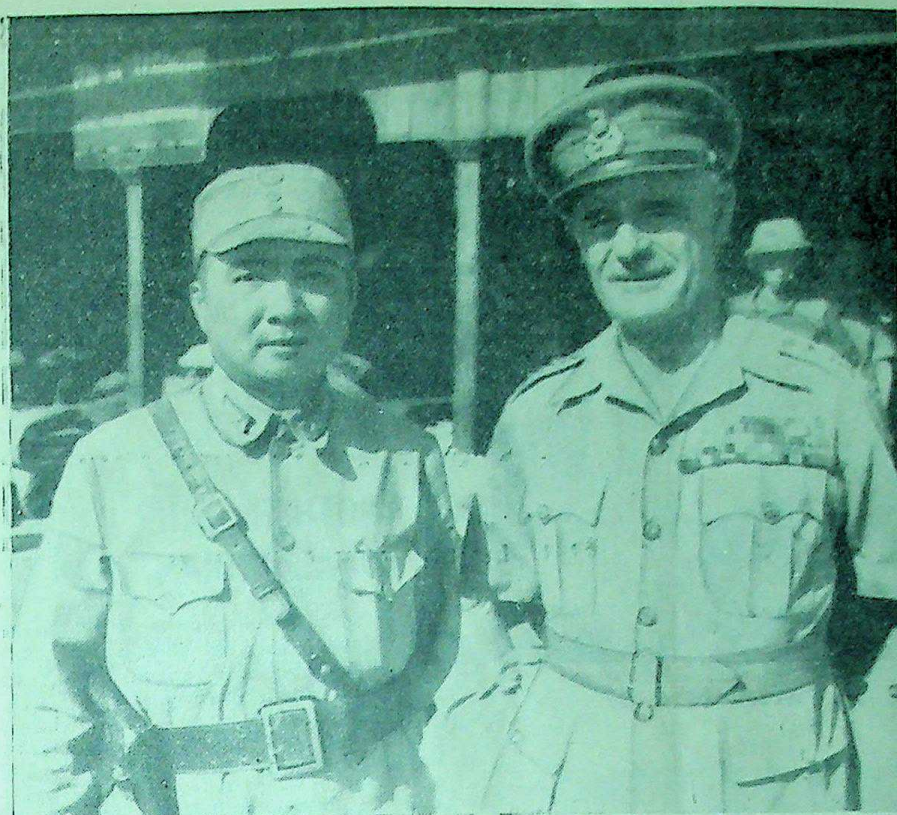
an initial stage-fright, but then opened out with confidence with inquiries about relations and friends, about their children's activities at school, the wheat crop or that litigation which had been dragging on since the beginning of the war. An old, weather-beaten Subedar, in a tone which reminded one of the parade ground, poured out a lecture to his son on the correct use of Urdu grammar—obviously the boy had made a slip or two in his last letter to his father.

Soon both officers and men will be gone on leave, to return refreshed and stronger. They have passed through sore trials. They are hardened against difficulties. India can depend on them.



AN INDIAN CAPTAIN'S DAUGHTER ENTERTAINS THE TROOPS





GENERAL WAVELL WITH GENERAL LO OF THE CHINESE ARMY ON THE ASSAM-BURMA FRONTIER

## CHINESE TROOPS IN INDIA

Following the recent visit to New Delhi of General Lo Tso Ying, Commander-in-Chief of two Chinese Armies, his staff officers and a detachment of one of the Divisions of these Armies, much interest has been aroused at the large number of Chinese troops now in India as our guests. All those who saw the troops on parade at the recent United Nations Day parade in Delhi must have been impressed by their smart turn-out, and their unusual uniforms and equipment.

It has now come to light that these are the famous Salt Gabelle Guards, who fought their way on foot from the epic battle of Shanghai through China and into Burma. It is known that there are many thousands of these seasoned war veterans now resting within India's hospitable borders.

Great interest was shown by Indian students in the visit, and the imagination of all who were present was fired when one of General Lo's staff officers gave a stirring account of the great part played by China's students during five years of bitter resistance to Japanese imperialist aggression.

### 'Chinese Students' Lead

Many expressed a desire to defend their own homeland with the same degree of stubbornness as displayed by China's student world.

China's students have given a lead to all students the world over in taking an aggressive part to preserve the freedom and security which the progress of true scholarship demands.

General Stillwell, of the American Army, whose fame was already established in the last World War and who was entrusted by H. E. the Generalissimo with the command, has nothing but praise for these excellent troops.

Other personalities among them include Major-General Robt. Lim, a doctor whose philanthropic work with the Red Cross in China is well known. He is supervising the medical side of the troops' needs. He was seen in Delhi wearing British War Decorations given him in appreciation of his services with the Allies during the Great War of 1914-18.

Many expressions of gratitude have been received for the aid and hospitality extended to these troops by the Indian and British Armies and United States Forces in India.

### A FALSE JAP CLAIM

In broadcasts referring to the Japanese occupation of the Andaman Islands, the Axis have made the rather obvious claim to have liberated large numbers of Indian and Burmese "political" prisoners. These "patriots" were said to be joyfully starting a new life after being freed.

The Andamans are a Volunteer Convict Settlement. Only persons convicted of serious crimes involving sentences of at least five years' imprisonment are sent there, and then only if they have volunteered to go. There were no convicts there at the time of the Japanese occupation who could be called "political prisoners."

Further, of the 5,850 convicts who were in the Andamans at the time of the Japanese occupation, only about 150 were actually in jail. The remainder, as is the normal procedure after a short period of jail custody to ensure their good behaviour, had been released and allowed to settle on the land. Many of them were receiving Government assistance for this purpose; others were self-supporting; and many of them had imported their wives and children from India. The falsity of the Japanese claim to have "liberated" them is thus self-evident.

## DEFERRED PAY OF INDIAN ARMY OTHER RANKS INCREASED

The pay and allowances of ranks other than Indian Commissioned and King's Commissioned officers in the Indian Army have been, during the period of the present war, subject to increases on merits and have in fact been brought to a figure which enables the sepoy particularly when serving overseas to make a generous allotment to his family without any personal hardship.

It may be recalled that in 1940 the expatriation allowance over and above the basic pay of the sepoy of Rs. 16 per month was raised from Rs. 5 to Rs. 7 and in areas where active operations were taking place the amount of *batta* was raised by Rs. 2, from Rs. 3 to Rs. 5. As a result, the Indian soldier on active service overseas, i.e., in the Middle East, Iraq or Burma, has been drawing Rs. 28 per month with proportionately higher rates for N.C.Os. and V.C.Os. For the army in India, an extra ration allowance of Rs. 2 per month for messing was granted per head per soldier, which resulted in a considerable improvement in his feeding conditions. In addition, he has for some years past been entitled to Re. 1 per month deferred pay to be made available to him in a lump sum on release from military service.

Experience has shown that these scales of pay and allowances produced general satisfaction and are in fact regarded by the other ranks of the Indian Army as fully meeting their present needs.

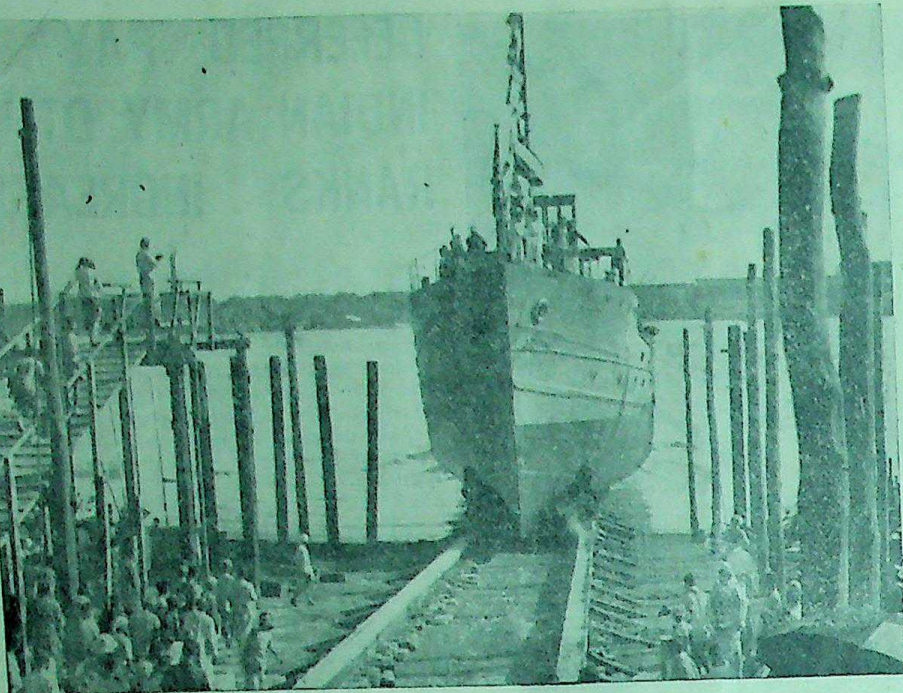
### Post-War Welfare Schemes

Government have, however, had under serious consideration the position in regard to the future of these men who are serving their country in the Army when demobilisation ultimately takes place and they return to their homes. While the soldiers are encouraged to save part of their present earnings, it is obviously desirable that provision should be made for the difficult period that will follow their return on discharge, to their homes with an abrupt diminution of income. It has, therefore, been decided to increase the deferred pay by Rs. 2 per month for each soldier and to provide Re. 1 per month deferred pay for each enrolled non-combatant. In addition, therefore, to the Re. 1 per month already accumulating as deferred pay since 1932 for every combatant other rank in the Indian Army, a further sum of Rs. 2 will be accumulated monthly as from April of this year and a sum of Re. 1 for non-combatants. Further, it has been decided that sums equivalent to this increase in deferred pay, i.e., Rs. 2 per head per combatant and Re. 1 per head per non-combatant will be paid annually into a fund which will be utilised after the war for financing post-war welfare schemes.

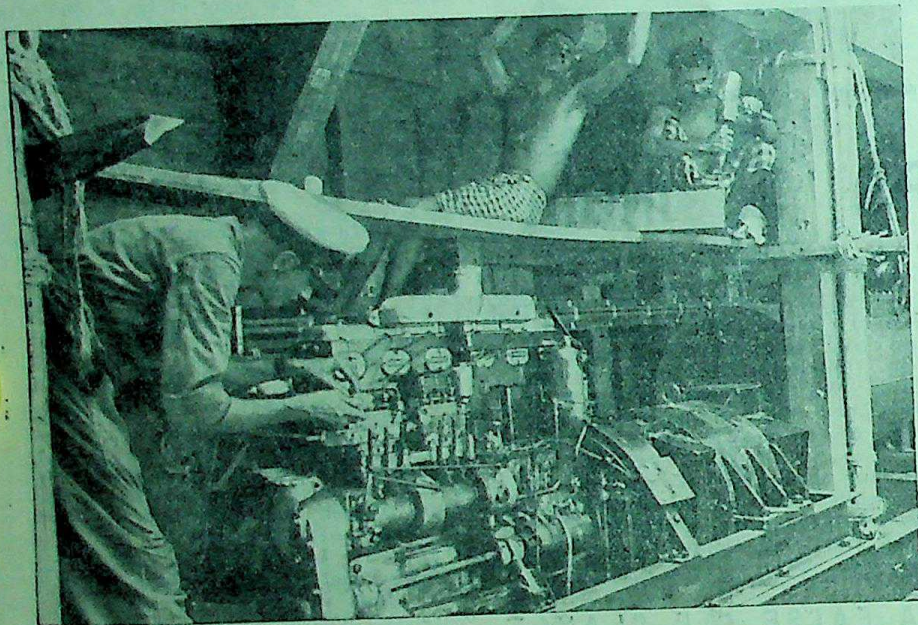
A Reconstruction Committee is already in existence and that body will now be given the assurance of funds being available to implement plans which can be worked out in consultation with Provincial Governments.

These provisions will ensure not only that each soldier leaves the Service with a moderate sum in his possession on re-entering civil life, but will make immediate financial provision for the application of welfare schemes and post-war reconstruction.





THE "LAHORE", A VESSEL OF THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY, IS LAUNCHED



ADJUSTMENTS TO A MODERN DIESEL GENERATOR ON BOARD AN INDIAN BUILT MINESWEEPER

## EXPANSION OF THE R. I. N.

One of many signs of the Royal Indian Navy's rapid expansion is the decision to build a new Torpedo School.

The R. I. N.'s Torpedo Branch is not concerned only with torpedoes. Officers and men at the School will also be trained in handling depth charges, in laying and disposing of mines, and in operating and maintaining ships' electrical equipment. Instruction in these three subjects has hitherto been imparted in separate establishments, but is now to be centralised in the School, which will produce a steady flow of highly qualified specialists.

Skilled electricians are important members of a ship's company.

Before 1914 electricity was used in warships for little more than lighting; today it plays a vastly more important role.

On the correct functioning of the equipment depends to a large extent a modern ship's fighting and steaming efficiency. Men trained to a high standard of skill are therefore necessary.

### Another Development

Those who have been through the School will be suited for well-paid employment in civil life on completing their time with the R. I. N. The best of them will, while serving, be eligible for warrant and commissioned rank.

Another development affecting the Royal Indian Navy is the establishment, in conjunction with the Royal Navy, of a new Anti-Submarine School in India.

The Officer-in-Charge will be lent by the Royal Navy; the staff will consist of officers of both the Royal Navy and the R. I. N.,

and the officers and men under training will be drawn from the R. I. N. and the Navies of Allied Nations. The School will be the largest in the British Commonwealth, with the exception of that in the United Kingdom. It will replace the R. I. N.'s existing Anti-Submarine School, which has done excellent work but is not large enough to cope with the present demand for trained men.

The R. I. N.'s Gunnery School is also undergoing considerable development. Recently moved to more spacious accommodation, it will next year be transferred to a new and larger building in another town. There it will have still more of the most recent devices for teaching men to operate the Navy's guns.

Since the war began, the number of R. I. N. ratings trained at the Gunnery School has increased fifteenfold.

## ANOTHER SHIP FOR ROYAL INDIAN NAVY

Another new ship for the Royal Indian Navy, intended for escort, anti-submarine and other duties, was launched in India recently.

During the past twelve months the fleet has been progressively increased in accordance with the large-scale ship-building programme initiated earlier in the war. Every month now newly constructed vessels move down Indian slipways preparatory to completing and many more ships as well as small craft are on the stocks. The construction already completed and in hand represents an outstanding development in the Indian shipbuilding industry. The increase in the number of ships has been accompanied by a remarkable increase in the number of officers and ratings.

## MORE PAY FOR R.I.N. RATINGS

Increases are announced in the pay of ratings of the Royal Indian Navy. These had effect from May 1 and completed the removal of any disparity that might have appeared to exist between the earnings of R.I.N. ratings and those of men with duties demanding comparable skill and initiative in the Indian Army and in civil life.

### New Rates

All branches benefit, and the attractiveness of the new rates can be illustrated by a few examples. In the Seaman Branch a boy when he goes to sea receives Rs. 25 a month. An Ordinary Seaman now draws Rs. 40 a month. An Able Seaman is on the scale Rs. 45-1-50, while for a Leading Seaman the scale is Rs. 60-5-70, and for a Petty Officer Rs. 80-5-85. In the Engine Room and Medical Branches the increases are the same, rate for rate, while a Chief Mechanician's pay now rises to Rs. 150. In the case of artificers and artisans recruited direct, initial pay will be fixed at Rs. 100, and on promotion the scale now goes up to Rs. 180 for a Chief Artificer/Artisan.

The R. I. N. rating thus receives even better pay than he did before, and to earn it he leads a healthy, open-air life, his uniform, accommodation and good rations being provided free, and he does interesting work varied by recreation for which complete facilities are furnished.

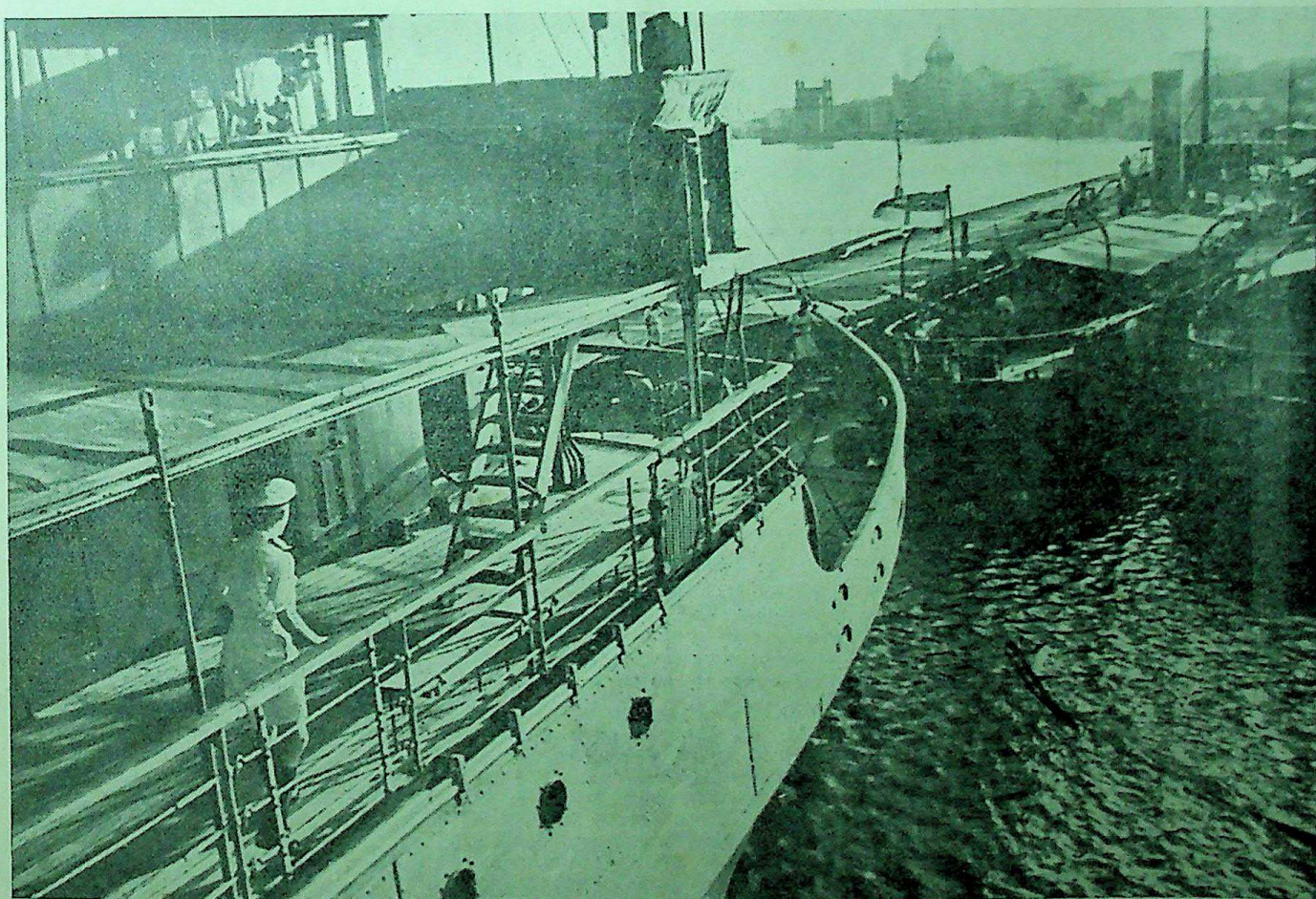
In addition to their basic pay, i.e., that now raised, men in the R. I. N. continue to receive the existing generous scale of monetary allowances granted for the acquirement of special qualifications, for service outside Indian territorial waters, for *batta*, etc., and also to have a liberal scale of kit, clothing and outfit allowances.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1942



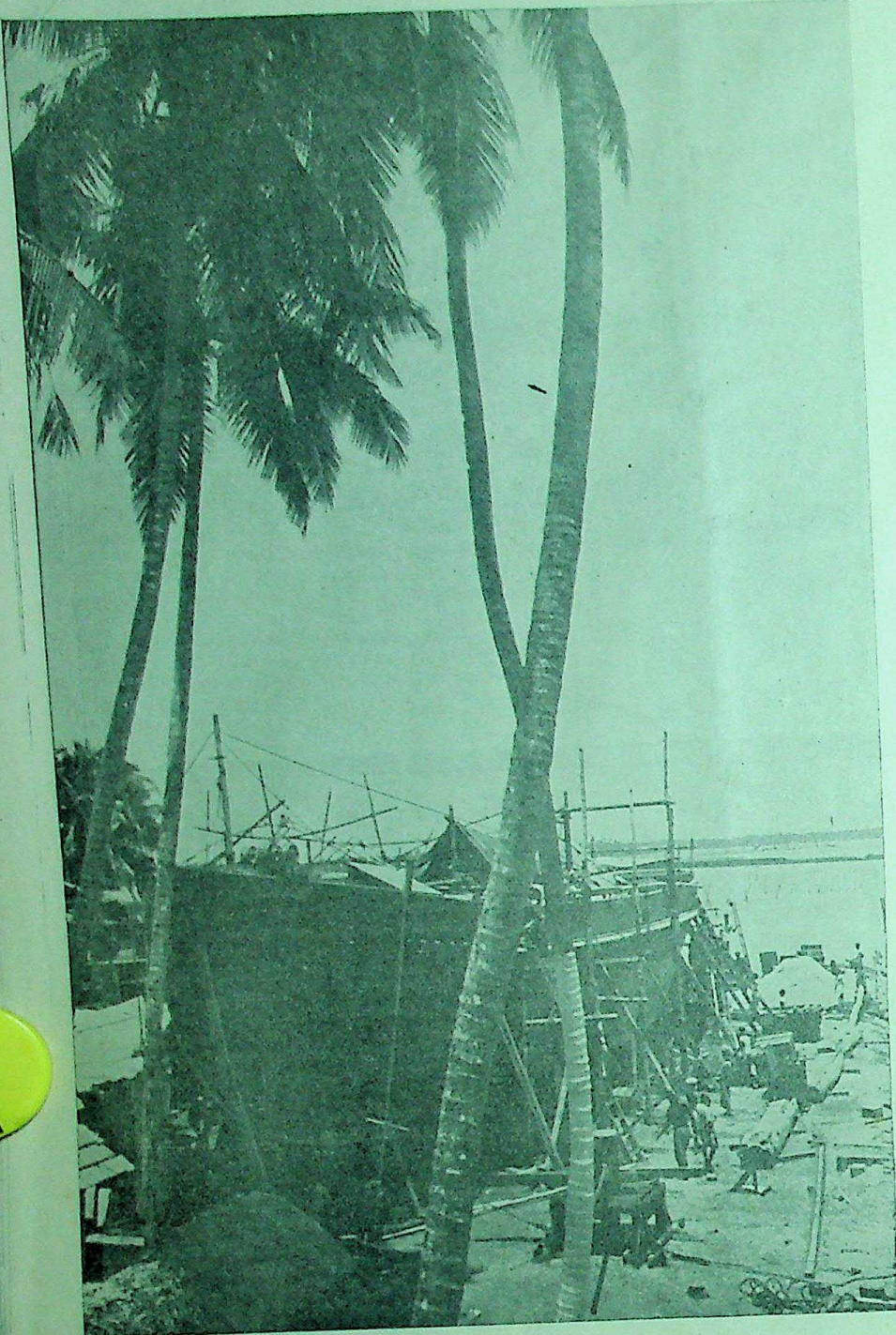


ENGINE ROOM OF R. I. N. SHIP. THE MEN DOWN HERE HAVE JUST AS IMPORTANT JOBS AS THE MEN ON THE DECK

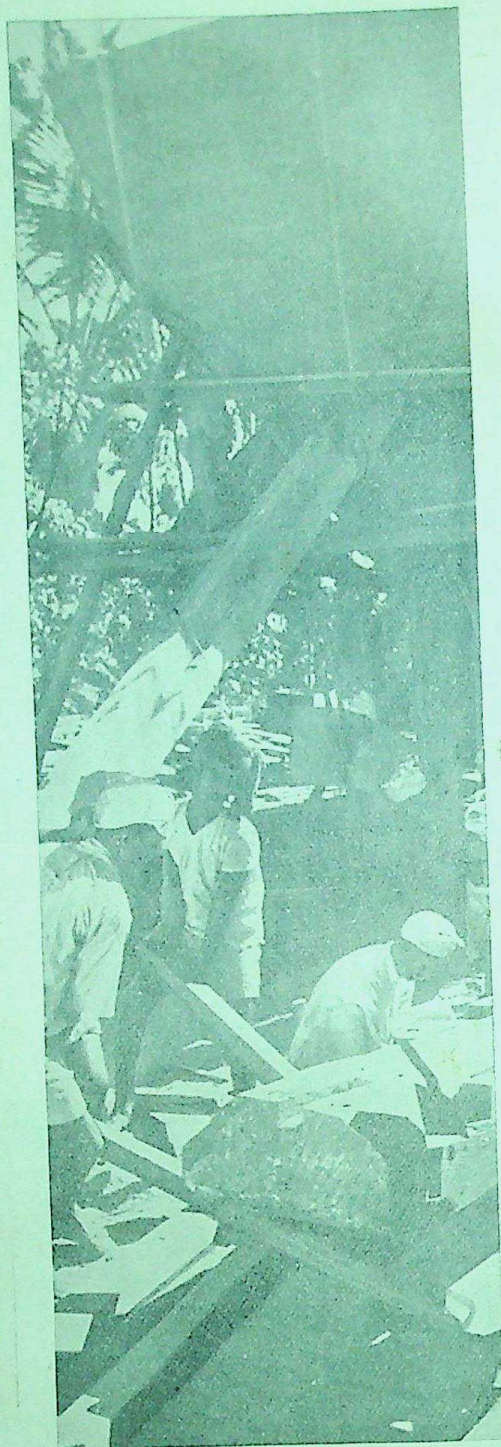


R. I. N. MINESWEEPER, BACK FROM THE DAY'S WORK IS ANCHORED IN A HARBOUR SOMEWHERE IN INDIA





The Royal Indian Navy is fast expanding and the various shipyards of the country are going ahead with shipbuilding. Here is a peaceful palm-shaded birthplace for a warship



Slipways are placed in position preparatory to launching the motor minesweeper

## BATTLE OF THE INDIAN OCEAN

During the last two and a half years a great deal has been written about the strategic importance of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Now a third ocean claims our attention—the Indian Ocean.

It forms a vast equilateral triangle with its apex in India and its base running from South Africa to Western Australia. The sides of this triangle measure 4,000 miles and they enclose a mighty sheet of water with the British Dominions in two corners and with the third corner occupied by India. All ports along the western side of the triangle are British with the exception of those in Madagascar and Mozambique. It is imperative to learn the lesson of Indo-China and make quite sure that Vichy France does not surrender any of her rights in Madagascar to the Japanese. It is also

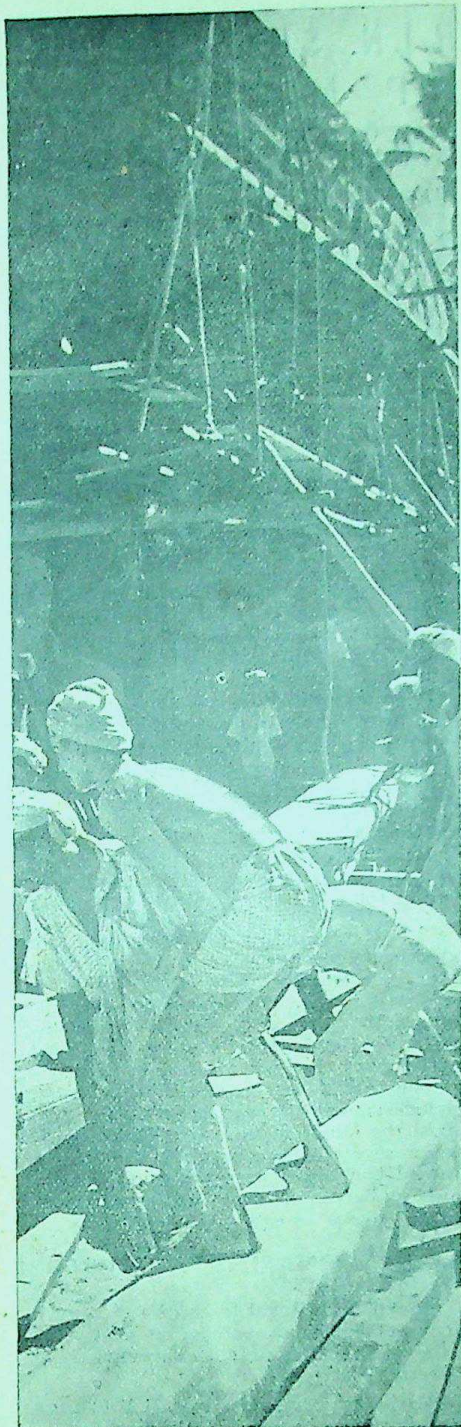
important that the colonial interests of Portugal in Mozambique are not interfered with by the Axis Powers.

We can realise now better than ever before how much the victories of Generals Platt and Cunningham in East Africa have meant to British strategy. No longer does the harbour of Mogadishu serve as a base for enemy submarines and light craft with which our foes might harry our ships passing up the east coast of Africa to the Persian Gulf and to the ports of India. The port which once supplied the armies of Marshal Graziani is now safely in British hands.

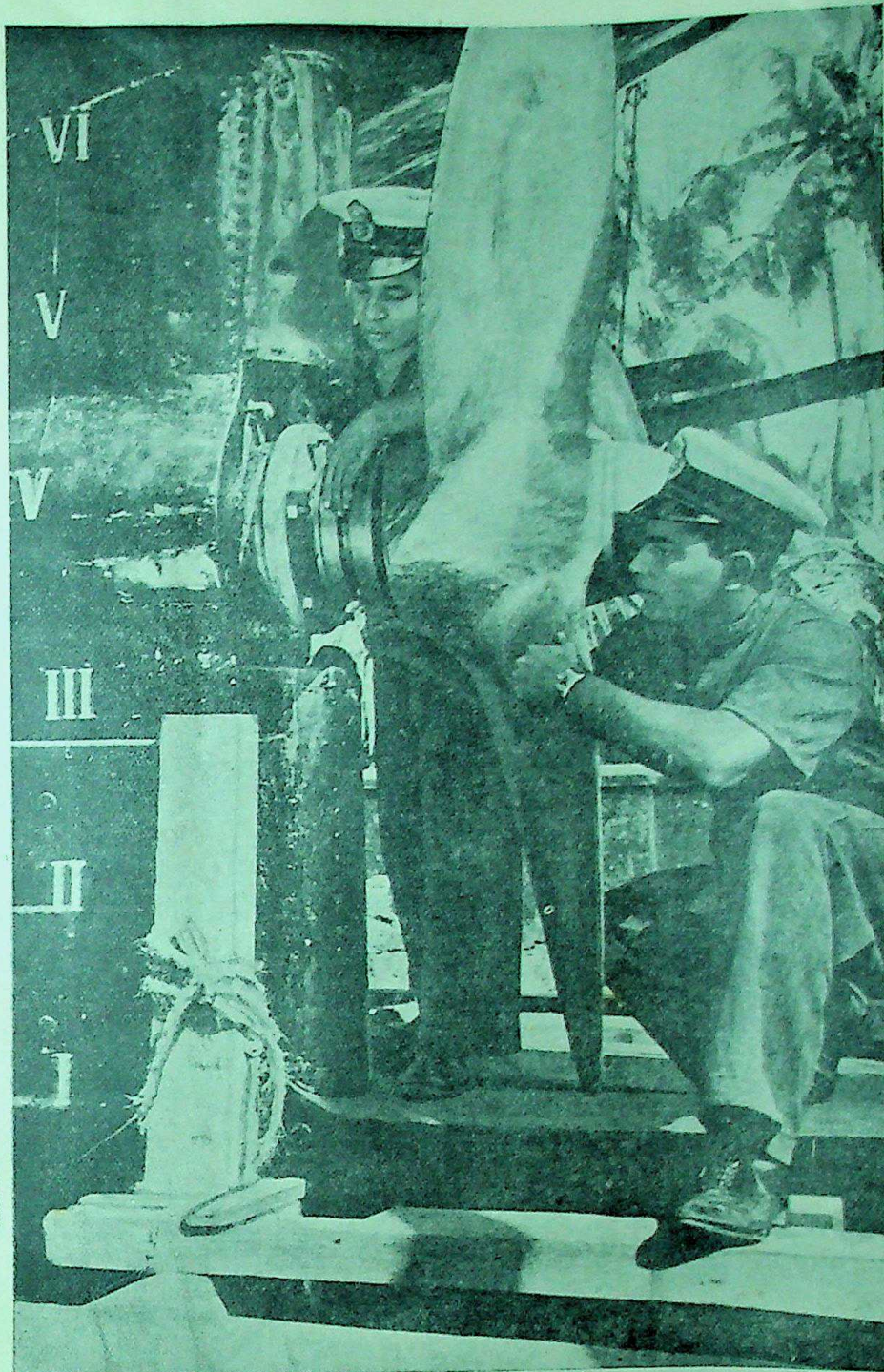
On this side also we find the British islands of Mauritius and the Seychelles, whose excellent harbours now take on an added importance.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1942





This minesweeper is built of teak and equipped with modern engines



This worker is adjusting the stern tube sealing gland in a motor minesweeper in a shipbuilding yard somewhere in India

So long as Vichy France can be prevented from surrendering any French rights in Madagascar, we can look upon the situation on this side of the Indian Ocean with satisfaction. The base of the triangle offers no places of refuge for any ships of war along 4,000 miles. They may travel between Durban and Freemantle, which is, of course, the main route for shipping from Britain to Australia via the Cape.

The eastern side of the Indian Ocean does, unfortunately, give some cause for apprehension. This side of the triangle runs from Colombo to Freemantle. Between them and flanking any ships travelling to and fro are the islands of Sumatra and Java, now in Japanese possession. These two islands act as a screen behind which Japan can marshal her forces for attacks on convoys sailing in the Indian Ocean or against their ports of call.

Already the Japanese have secured the Andaman Islands in the Bay of Bengal, which we very wisely declined to defend at the probable cost of many lives and certain destruction of a number of ships. From these islands and from aircraft-carriers based on them, Colombo and two ports on India's eastern coast have been raided by aircraft. Raiders may soon appear in the Arabian Gulf and threaten the security of the line of supply to Russia through the Persian Gulf—a line which is the only alternative to that up the coast of Norway to Murmansk.

It might appear at first sight that it can never be possible for Japan to be more than a nuisance to sea commerce so far from her home ports. But a glance at a map shows that the Arabian Gulf is about the same distance by sea from Tokyo and London. It is true that the Royal Navy

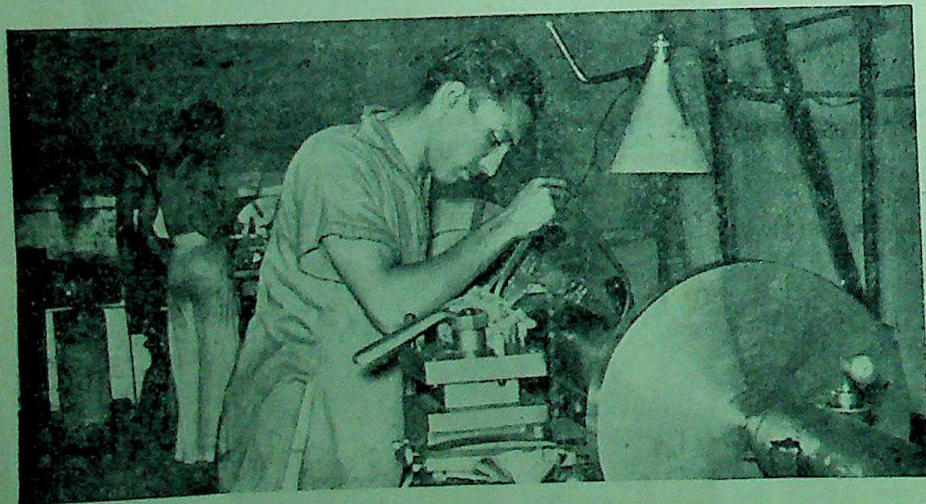
has an advantage in the matter of fuelling stations on the way, but it must be remembered that it is only a matter of time till the ports and installations captured by Japan can be made to serve their new masters.

All these considerations show the immense importance of the port of Colombo to the cause of the United Nations. Colombo is to the Indian Ocean what Pearl Harbour should have been to the Pacific. Her brilliant repulse of the first air raid made on her is a particularly happy augury. It means that the real battle of the Indian Ocean has commenced with a severe Japanese reverse. It has been generally assumed in informed quarters that the great naval battle for supremacy in the Far East will be fought in the Pacific. May it not be that the Indian Ocean, instead, will be the setting for a new Trafalgar?





Vice-Admiral Sir Herbert Fitzherbert (left) and the Fortress Commander inspect motor minesweepers under construction



WORKERS IN AN INDIAN ENGINEERING WORKSHOP ENGAGED IN SHIPBUILDING

## R.I.N. SHIP SHELLS JAP MACHINE-GUN "NESTS" NEAR AKYAB

**H**ow a Royal Indian Navy ship bombarded Japanese machine-gun "nests" near Akyab after beating off a heavy dive-bombing attack has just been revealed on her return to an Indian port.

Normally engaged in minesweeping, the vessel was, from March to May last, employed on patrol and reconnaissance off the enemy-occupied coast of Burma. On May 3, four air raids were made on Akyab, one stick of bombs dropping close to her starboard quarter, and after the third raid her Commanding Officer was ordered to shell the Japanese positions along the right bank of a river just south of the port.

Three-quarters of an hour after she had left her anchorage seven Japanese bombers swooped on the R. I. N. ship, diving repeatedly from different directions as she zigzagged in the shoal-strown channel and blazed away with her A.A. armament. The nearest bomb fell only five feet away, but so effective was the fire maintained by the ship's company that the airmen became more cautious and released their bombs from a higher altitude. At times during the attack the vessel was almost hidden by fountains of water raised by the bombs, and a rescue launch actually started from shore in the belief that she had been sunk.

An 18-year-old midshipman and two Indian signalmen were among those manning her machine-guns. After adjusting the steering gear, which had suffered some damage, the R. I. N. vessel, her deck littered with fragments of bombs, proceeded up the river and shelled enemy positions stretching nine miles along the bank. Having silenced the machine-guns and destroyed the buildings from which the Japanese were attacking our river traffic, she steamed back to Akyab, and shortly afterwards embarked a large number of troops and put to sea as escort to a convoy.

### AXIS SUBMARINE ATTACKED

Details of a Royal Indian Navy vessel's pursuit of an enemy submarine somewhere in the waters around India have just been released.

Earlier this year, one of H.M.I. ships was escorting a convoy in heavy seas and a strong wind that caused her to pitch and roll and ship much water over her bows. Towards evening the weather grew worse, and, taking advantage of this, a submerged submarine torpedoed a ship on the wing of the convoy.

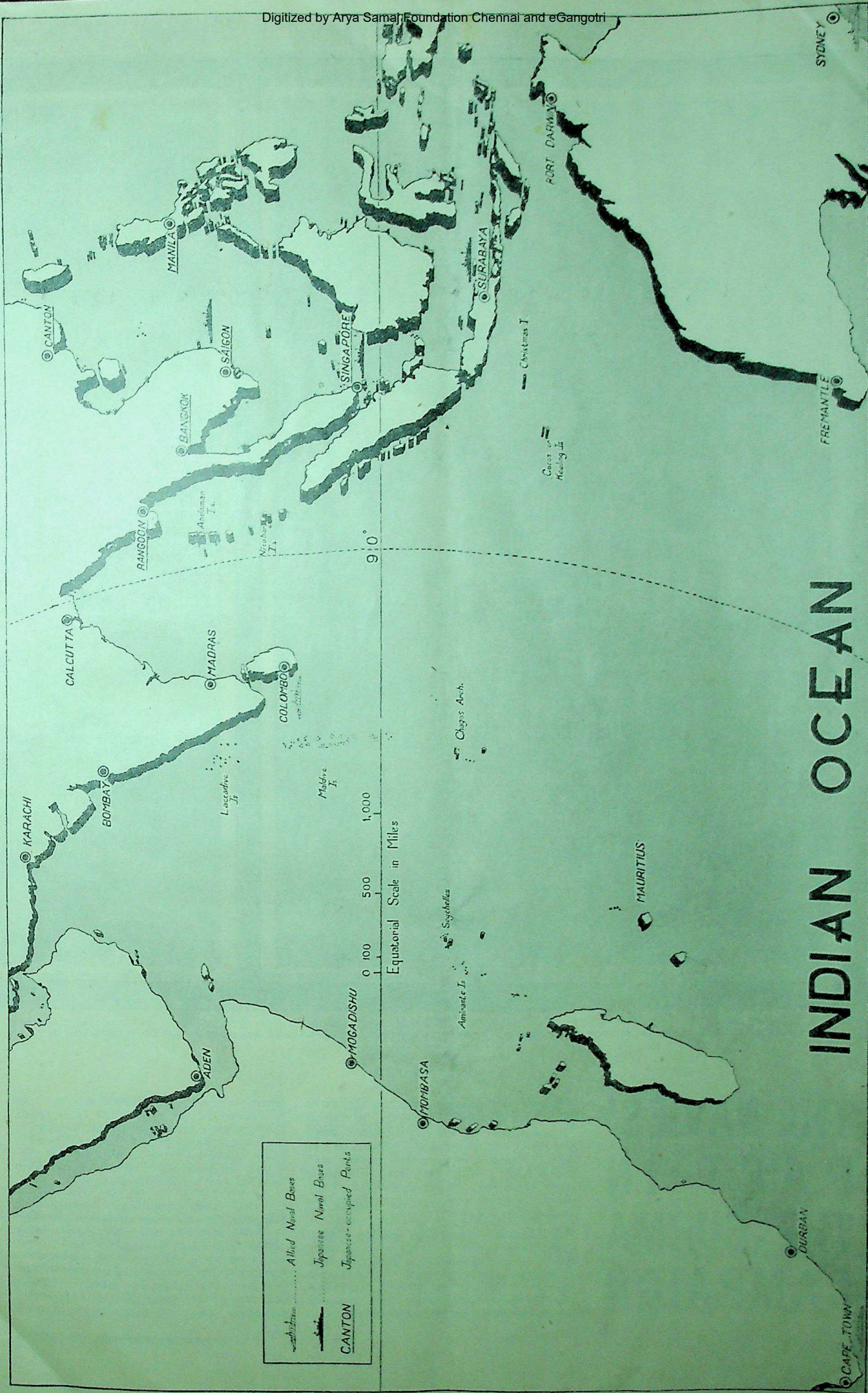
Going into action at once, the R.I.N. vessel turned beam on to sea and wind in order to reduce pitching and conduct the hunt more advantageously. The pounding of the seas caused her to list heavily, but despite the difficulties she made several attacks with depth charges on the lurking enemy.

At the same instant as the second attack a bubble of air, 12 feet in diameter, was observed to rise to the surface of the sea accompanied by a considerable quantity of oil.

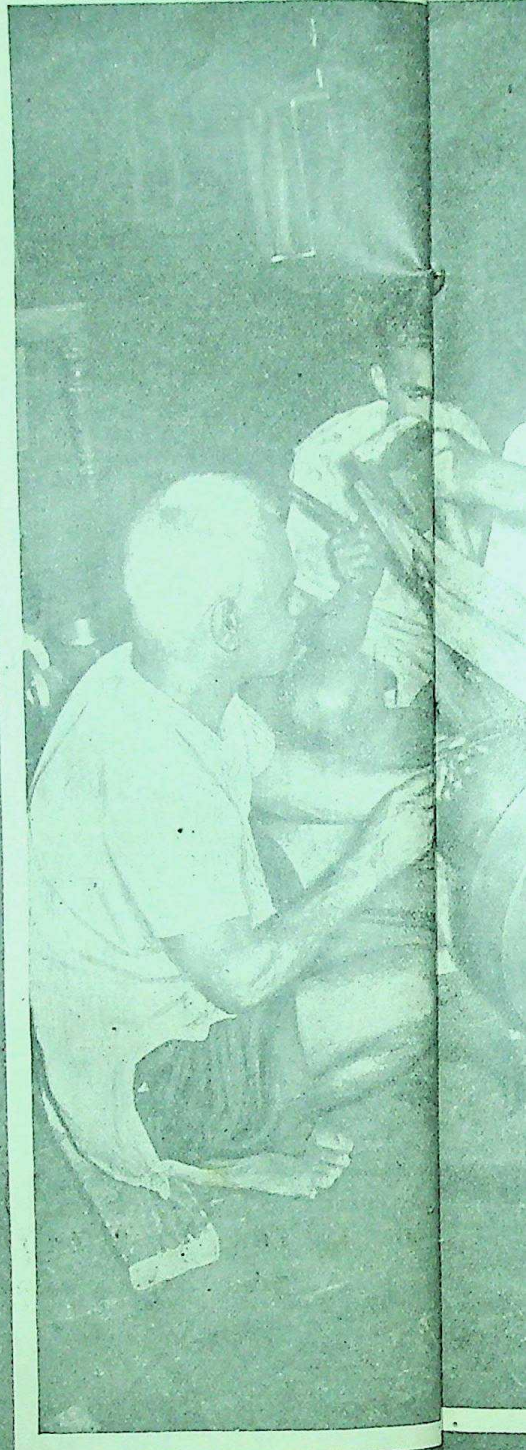
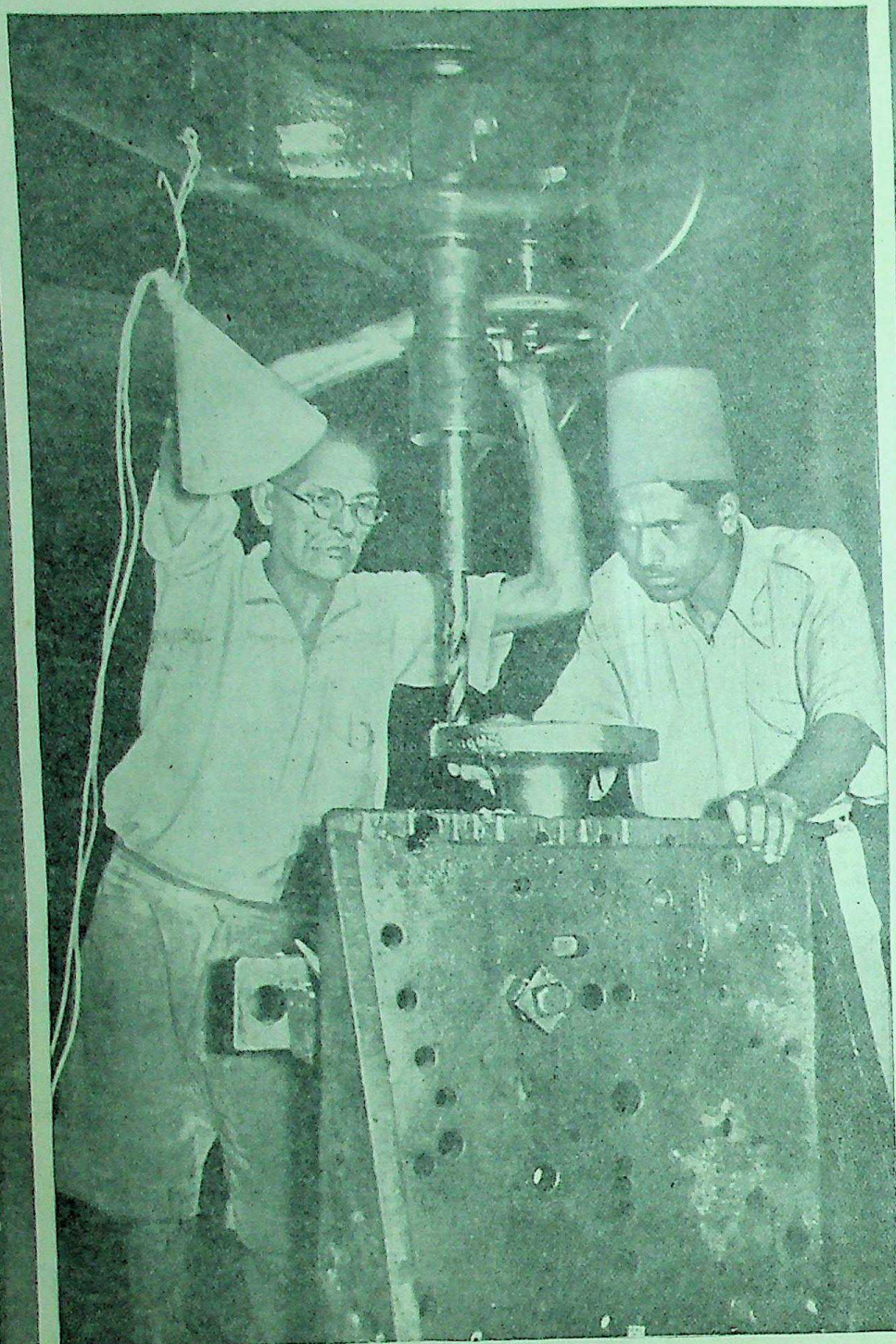
In the gathering darkness and bad weather it was not possible to ascertain what became of the submarine, although the R.I.N. vessel searched a wide area; but her prompt counter-attack had saved the convoy from being further molested, and the absence of any more attempts on the torpedoed ship, which remained afloat, suggests that the submarine may have been damaged.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1942









OVER 300 VESSELS INCLUDING TRAWLERS, MOTOR MINESWEEPERS CORVETTES AND FLEMING LIFE-BOATS ARE NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN THE VARIOUS SHIPYARDS

## THE NAVIES' PART IN THE BURMA CAMPAIGN

Further information can now be given about the part played in the Burma campaign by the Royal Indian Navy and the Burma Navy. Many officers and men of the Burma Navy are now serving with the R.I.N. Their experience will be of great value both in the protection of this country's coast and in future operations against the Japanese.

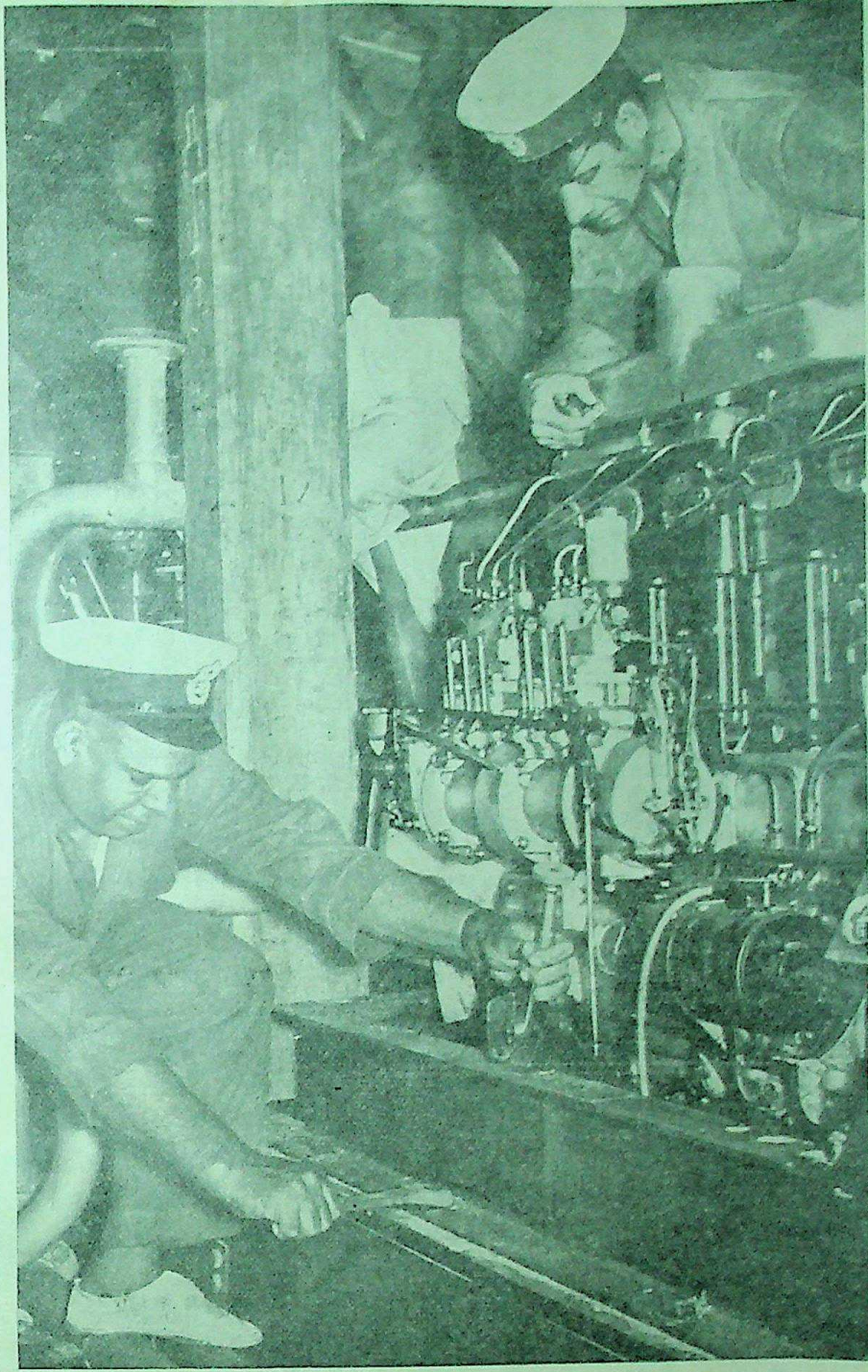
When the enemy was coming dangerously close, motor launches of the Burma Navy evacuated civil and military personnel, including the staffs of lighthouses, from the islands of the Mergui Archipelago and Moulmein and Tavoy. These operations were often carried out under fire from

enemy aircraft and forces ashore, and in extremely bad weather. In intervals between their errands of mercy, commanding officers found time to intercept country boats manned by the enemy, and also removed to Rangoon craft that would have been of use to the Japanese.

On land operations approaching Rangoon, Burma's naval forces patrolled the delta, swept for mines and gave warning of hostile bombers' proximity. On at least one occasion a motor launch captured a country boat containing Japanese officers and armed Burmese hooligans. Officers and men of the Burma Navy also joined in unloading the cargoes of vessels in port.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1942





SHIPYARDS OF THE COUNTRY. THESE SCENES IN AN ENGINEERING WORKSHOP DEPICT SOME OF THE OPERATIONS CONNECTED WITH SHIPBUILDING

working continuously for days. Later, when the evacuation of Rangoon was decided upon, they assisted in taking many river craft to sea. This was done in co-operation with the Port Authority's staffs and Indian crews engaged upon the river, and involved considerable risk, as these small craft were not built to stand up to such an ordeal, and might well have foundered in the storms that occur at this time of the year. Proceeding, however, in several convoys escorted by motor launches, they made their passage safely along the coast, helping to evacuate personnel from Bassein.

The boisterous wind and heavy seas rendered it necessary for some vessels to

proceed very slowly, for if they maintained speed they shipped water faster than they could get rid of it.

A Burma Navy Officer who was in a tug boat described how water was knee-deep on deck. Larger vessels left Rangoon later, escorted by H.M.I. ships.

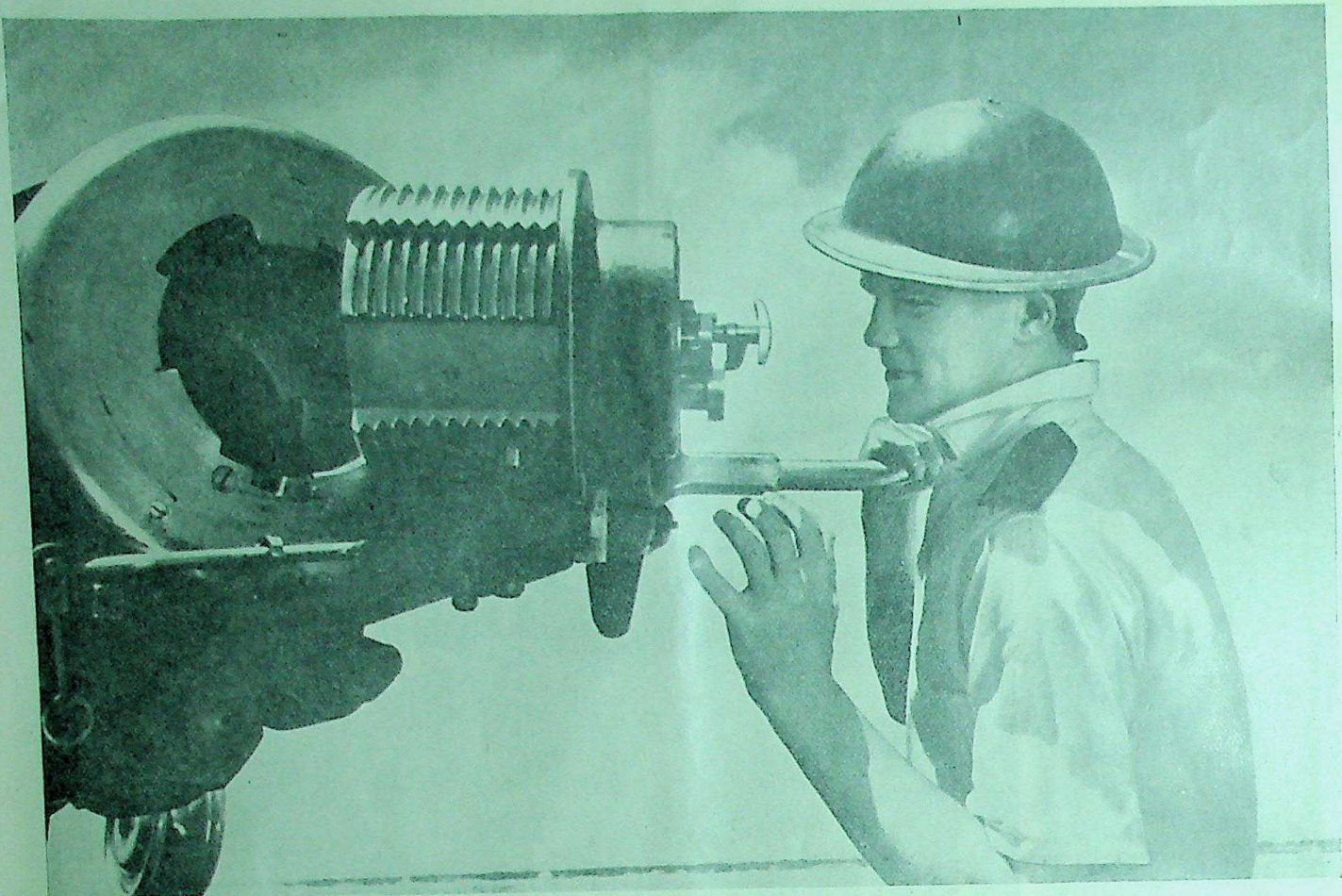
#### Strange-Looking Convoy

Soon after the tug reached Akyab, a strange-looking convoy arrived from Bassein, consisting of flat-bottomed river steamers, barges and launches with large numbers of evacuees. It too had had to brave the perils of the open sea, but the Indian seamen who manned it showed the greatest courage and resourcefulness.

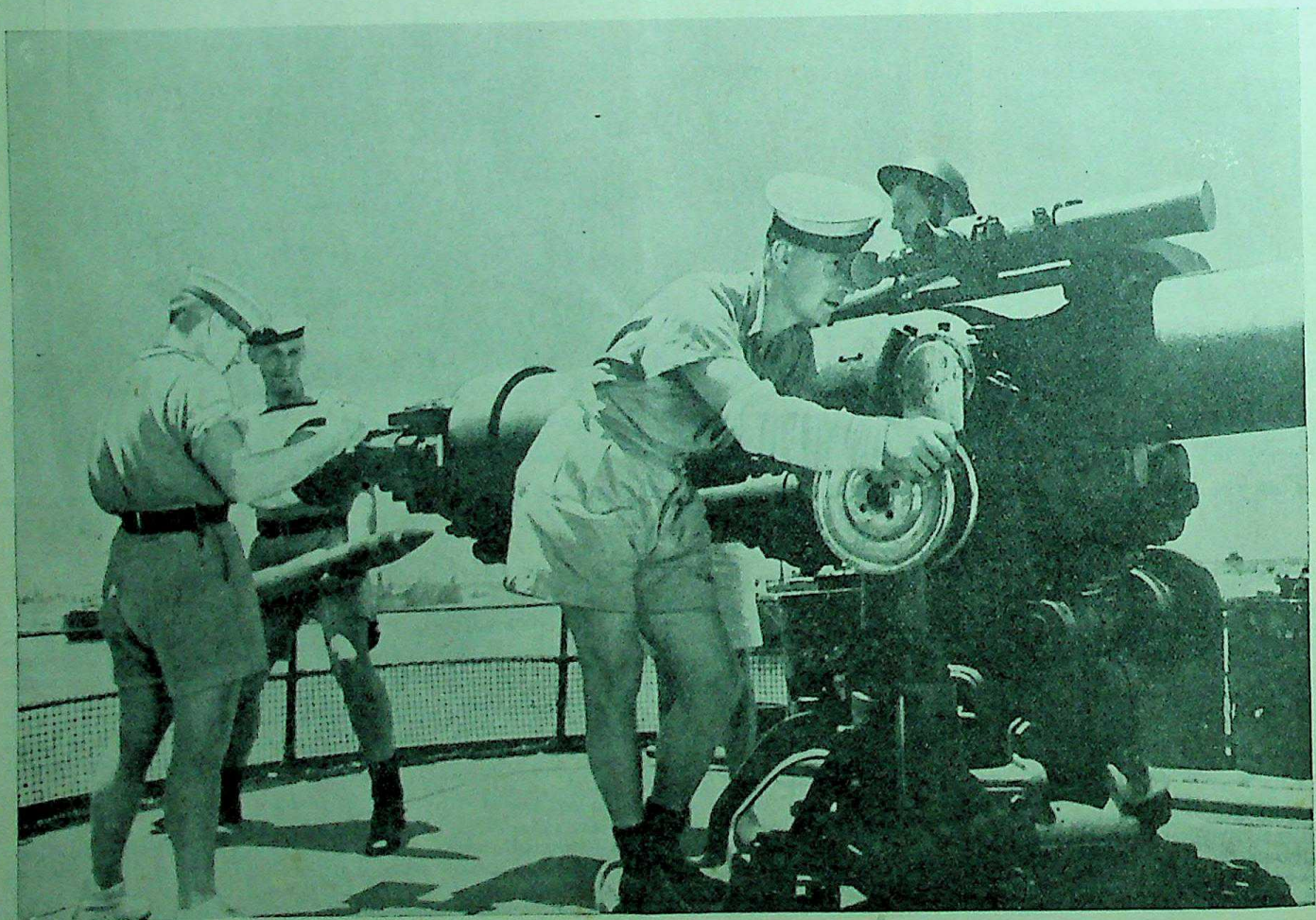
In Akyab the Burma Navy's personnel helped to evacuate refugees and surplus stores, and while patrolling the coast and inland waterways—in the later stages under continuous enemy surveillance—kept as much control as possible over marauding bands of hooligans. One of their launches stood by to rescue R.A.F. men who might have to bale out over deep water.

On shore, officers of the Burma Navy, with R.I.N. ratings, assisted in maintaining electric, water and other essential services, and when evacuation was at last necessary demolished jetties and sank vessels that could not be removed to safety.





THIS MAN IS CHECKING UP ON THE BREECH MECHANISM OF A NAVAL GUN



EXERCISE ACTION STATIONS ON A NAVAL VESSEL IN A PORT SOMEWHERE IN INDIA





THESE MEN OF THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY ARE FITTING THE PROPELLER ON A MOTOR MINESWEEPER BUILT IN INDIA

## BURMA NAVY'S PART IN THE EVACUATION OF INDIANS

**T**he part played by the Burma R.N.V.R. in the recent evacuation of Indians from Burma, in carrying out many demolitions in coastal towns and in keeping a vigilant watch for the enemy in the numberless creeks and inlets around the Irrawaddi Delta, has just been revealed.

With comparatively small craft and a limited number of personnel, the Burma Navy not only helped to evacuate many thousands of Indian refugees but seriously delayed the Japanese advance.

In one case, the resource and initiative of a young Naval officer resulted in the safe evacuation of large numbers of refugees from a small coastal locality where the civil administration had temporarily broken down and refugees were threatened by hooligans. This officer rallied the police and arranged guards for the protection of refugees, organised scavenging units, established a system of food distribution and, generally, restored order out of chaos. In doing this he received considerable help from troops who had been cut off from their units and had made their way to this area through enemy lines. But for the courage and resourcefulness displayed by

the Naval officer concerned and the men under him, many lives might have been lost.

Accurate shooting by machine-gunners aboard the Burma Navy ships often resulted in the failure of attacks by Japanese planes, thus enabling the work of evacuation and demolition to be carried out without undue delay.

### EVACUEE SHIP AT COLOMBO

A statement was published in the Press some time ago to the effect that when an evacuee ship touched at Colombo only about 56 Indians out of a total of 851 on the boat were allowed to land and come to India by the overland route from Colombo. A complaint was also made that provisions, food, etc., of which the evacuees were in need, were not sent on board.

The Government of Ceylon issued a Press communique affirming that the responsibility for the welfare of Indian evacuees on ships calling at Colombo was that of the Agent of the Government of India and that the Government of Ceylon had arranged to provide the Agent with all the necessary facilities to that end.

In order to remove possible misapprehensions arising from the statement it is necessary to explain that the Indian Agent in Ceylon has no executive authority in the island. Permission for the evacuees to land in Ceylon could only be given by the Ceylon authorities and the Agent's presence was not necessary for such permission to be obtained.

The ship appears to have arrived in the harbour about 9.45 a. m. At the request of the Secretary of the Evacuees Committee, Colombo, a Ceylon police officer booked a telephone call to Kandy, the headquarters of the Indian Agent, but owing to congestion on the line it was nearly 1 p.m. when the call was put through and then it did not reach the Agent who was away on duty. A telegram was also sent to the Agent which reached him at 2.30 p.m. Immediately on receipt of the telegram the Agent sent his Assistant to Colombo by road but when he reached there about 6.30 p.m. the ship had already left the port.

The Agent of the Government of India on his own initiative informed the Governments of India and Madras and the Port authorities at Tuticorin. When the ship reached Tuticorin, the authorities of that place were prepared to receive the refugees and gave them all the assistance of which they stood in need.

The Agent has been authorised by the Government of India to render financial assistance to Indian evacuees for their journey from Colombo to their destinations in India.





A tribute to Scotland's hospitality is paid by H. M. I. S. *Jumna's* ratings, some of whom are seen with their friends in Scotland

## R.I.N. RATINGS' TRIBUTE TO SCOTLAND'S HOSPITALITY

"London is the place for sightseeing, but give us Scotland for hospitality."

Members of the ship's company of H.M.I.S. *Jumna*, one of the Royal Indian Navy's latest sloops, thus sum up conclusions on their stay in the British Isles, though they add in fairness to England that they spent only a few days there. The *Jumna* is now in Eastern waters, engaged like her sister ships of the Royal Indian Navy in the defence of India. She was commissioned in the United Kingdom last year and, after escorting convoys in the Atlantic, proceeded East, where between Java and Sumatra her guns destroyed four Japanese bombers and perhaps more.

One of the ship's company recently described in an interview how officers and men made the voyage from India in a palatial liner and on reaching their destination in Scotland, in the early hours of a cold February morning, were cheered by the sight of an ample meal of Indian curry and rice. The men were accommodated in a castle on the banks of Loch Lomond, famous in song, and had spacious living quarters in surroundings whose beauty is world-renowned. After their duties in the dockyard, he said, they usually had the afternoon and evening at their disposal for trips into the neighbouring town, cinema-going, walks and boating on Loch Lomond.

### Great Interest in India

"The people in the neighbourhood," he added, "were most hospitable and used often to invite us to their houses. Food was strictly rationed, but they stinted themselves to provide us with a substantial meal. They showed great interest in India, and we had to answer many questions about our country. Everybody was working hard, cheerful and confident of

victory, no air raid ever damping the people's spirits. On Sundays we returned their hospitality at the castle."

News of India was received at night through special B.B.C. broadcasts.

For her trials the *Jumna* went to the north of Scotland, where the ship's company raised a football eleven to play an R. N. team. During all this time correspondence was kept up with friends in Scotland.

Early in July they were back in Scotland, and leave in any part of the United Kingdom was granted. Some ratings went to Edinburgh, but most preferred London, thinking that they could not return to India without a visit to the metropolis of the world. In London they had a great time sightseeing, and people made them feel at home, but the city was too vast to be properly appreciated in a short tour. Signs of air raid damage were surprisingly few.

### Climax To Cruise

The *Jumna* helped to escort several more convoys, and then after returning to Scotland, where the ship's company said good-bye to their many friends, started for the East.

Reaching South Africa, the ratings had opportunities of going to Cape Town, where they enjoyed the lovely gardens and were struck by the abundance of luscious fruit. After touching at Mombasa, Aden and Suez, the *Jumna* was ordered to Singapore, and in that theatre of war her dramatic encounter with Japanese bombers provided a climax to the cruise.

In the opinion of some aboard, her good fortune in escaping serious damage was due to a spring of white heather. If that is so, it is one more kindness to her from hospitable Scotland.

## DEFENCE

### SKIPPER PRAISES INDIAN SEAMEN

Forty-thousand Indian seamen are hazarding their lives in the Battle of the Atlantic, risking the attacks of U-boats, raiders, bombing aeroplanes and mines in a manner which has won the admiration of all who are familiar with the terror of the war at sea, writes Sir Archibald Hurd, author of the Official History of the Merchant Navy in the War of 1914-1918.

There is nothing heroic about the physique of these men, who are known as "lascars," but they are first class sailors, adds Sir Archibald. Men from northern lands find it difficult to work in intense heat, and many leading British shipping companies on the "Eastward run" have long employed Indian seamen, making special provision for their diet and comfort. These companies include the P. and O., the British India, the Anchor, the Bibby, the Clan and City lines as well as the Cunard Company.

### First Class Sailors

Since this war broke out many of the ships in which these Indian sailors serve have been diverted from the "Eastern run" to the Atlantic. It was feared, at first, that they would not be able to stand the cold, but they have proved so adaptable that they are now to be met with in all the Seven Seas, wherever British merchantmen are employed in carrying cargoes. Their conduct and efficiency under these conditions have proved their powers of endurance.

Some years ago, when I was discussing the problem of crews with the captain of a merchantship, he told me that he would rather have a crew of lascars than men from any other part of the world, because they were such good seamen and so prompt in obeying orders. They never grumbled, he said, and were always ready for any duty, doing it "at the double."

During the struggle of 1914-18, it became my duty to study the records of Indian seamen under the stress and strain of war and they displayed a fine spirit in every ordeal.

I recall, in particular, the sinking of the *Arabia* by a torpedo. She had a crew of Indian seamen under British officers, and of her 437 passengers, 169 were women and children. Everyone on board knew that the ship was doomed, but the sailors showed no signs of panic. They responded instinctively to the call "Women and Children first" at the risk of their own lives. Not until all the women and children were in the boats did they think of their own safety. The behaviour of these men proved their loyalty, devotion and courage.

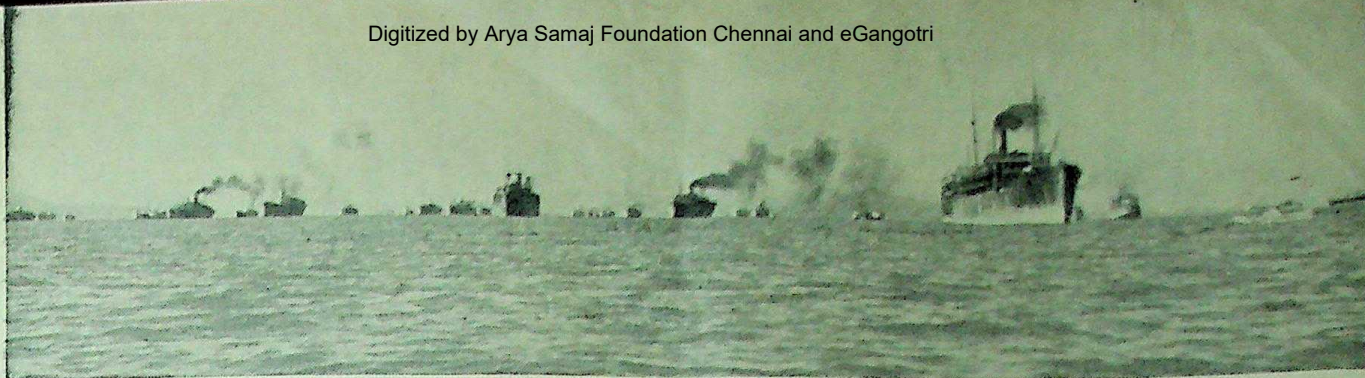
### Won Officers' Admiration

A similar spirit was shown when the *Domala*, with Indian seamen and passengers who were being repatriated after detention in Germany, was bombed and set on fire in the English Channel not long after this war had started. In the attack 36 of her crew of 106 were lost as well as 45 of her 143 passengers, but the men were undismayed by the experience. They went about their duties in a manner which won the admiration of the officers.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 86]

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1942





THIS MILITARY CONVOY, THE LARGEST EVER TO LEAVE BRITAIN FOR THE FAR EAST, HAS ARRIVED SAFELY IN INDIA

## MORE BRITISH TROOPS AND SUPPLIES FOR INDIA

**N**ews of the safe arrival in Indian waters of the largest military convoy ever to leave Britain affords convincing proof of Britain's continued mastery of the seas. It shows that Britain intends to check and presently turn back the tide of Japanese success in the Far East.

The skill, determination and ceaseless vigilance of the Royal Navy are all exemplified by the successful outcome of such a voyage as this, covering perhaps 12,000 miles and occupying many weeks. Minefields and German and Japanese submarines and dive-bombers are an ever-present menace. Britain's capacity to keep open her long lines of communication in the face of these many and deadly dangers is one aspect of Britain's day-to-day war effort which is not always sufficiently appreciated.

The passage of these reinforcements to India emphasises the wisdom of the decision to forestall the occupation of Madagascar by Japan. With that island in enemy hands, the long voyage round the Cape would be twice as hazardous. News of the Japanese attack upon British warships at Diego Suarez lends point to this reflection.

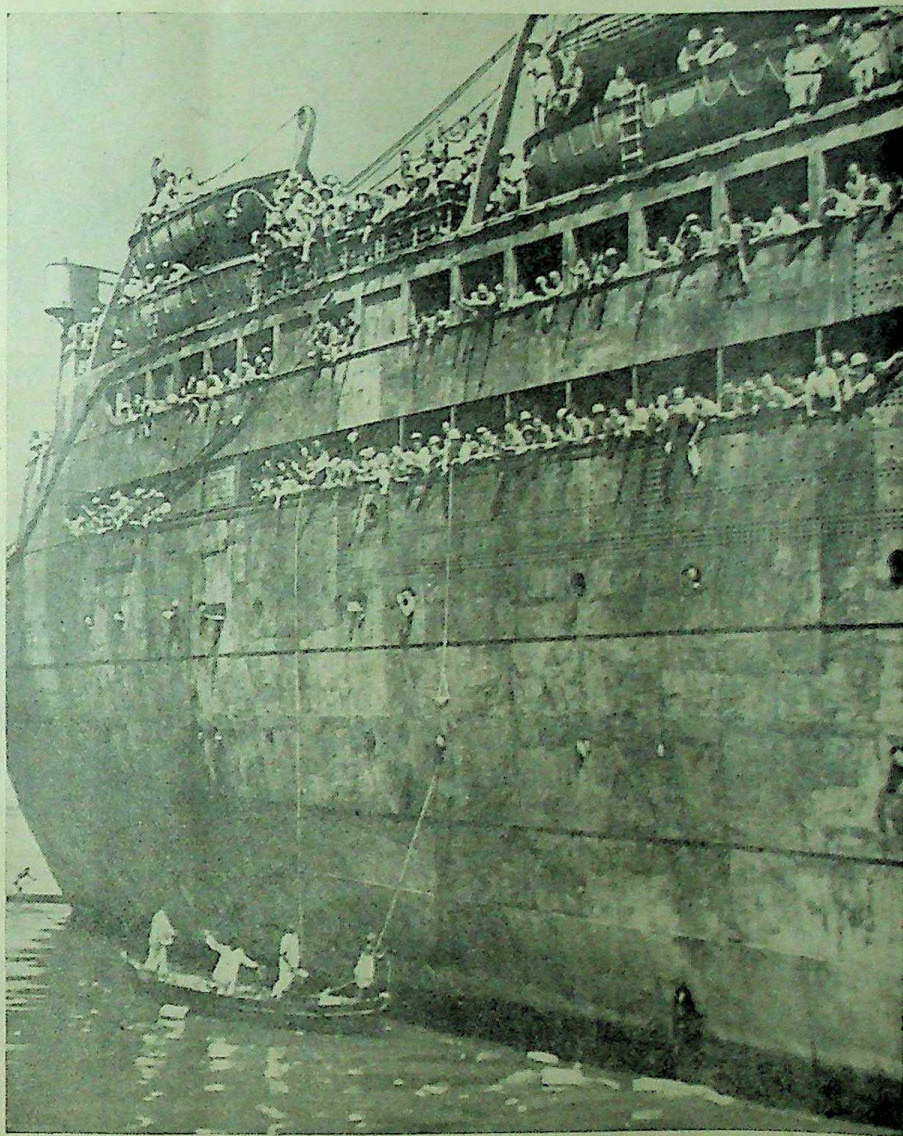
As it is Britain can look forward with confidence to the continued strengthening of her forces in India. Japanese units are now very near the frontier but their chances of invading India successfully grow less with every day that passes.

### TRIBUTE TO U. S. WAR EFFORT

Addressing the American radio audience the other day Sir Girja Shanker Bajpai, according to a Washington message dated April 25, said, "I can assure the Indian people that the American war effort is stupendous almost beyond belief. In my official position I have seen a great deal of this war effort, and it is colossal, dwarfing the efforts of the enemy."

War machines are coming off the assembly lines on schedule, he added. One factory alone builds entire trainloads of tanks, the President's 60,000 aeroplane goal for this year, exceeding a thousand weekly, is being met, and these planes are the world's best. Today the United Nations are outbuilding the Axis Powers in planes. Flight training is also going ahead at great speed.

The shipbuilding rate has never been matched in history. New American ships to the number of 2,300 will ply the seas next year. One shipyard alone is producing a finished ship daily. Because new methods are employed in turning out these new American ships, the Americans can build them in half the time that other nations take. The combined Axis ship production is only a quarter of the present American programme.



TROOPS LINING THE DECKS OF ONE OF THE HUGE LINERS OF THE CONVOY



TROOPS TRANSIPPED ASHORE IN BARGES



MODERN TANKS FOR INDIA'S DEFENCE





TAKE COVER—THIS IS WHAT EVERY CITIZEN MUST DO WHEN THE SIREN GOES. HERE ARE TWO TYPES OF AIR RAID SHELTERS BUILT IN CALCUTTA

# TAKE COVER

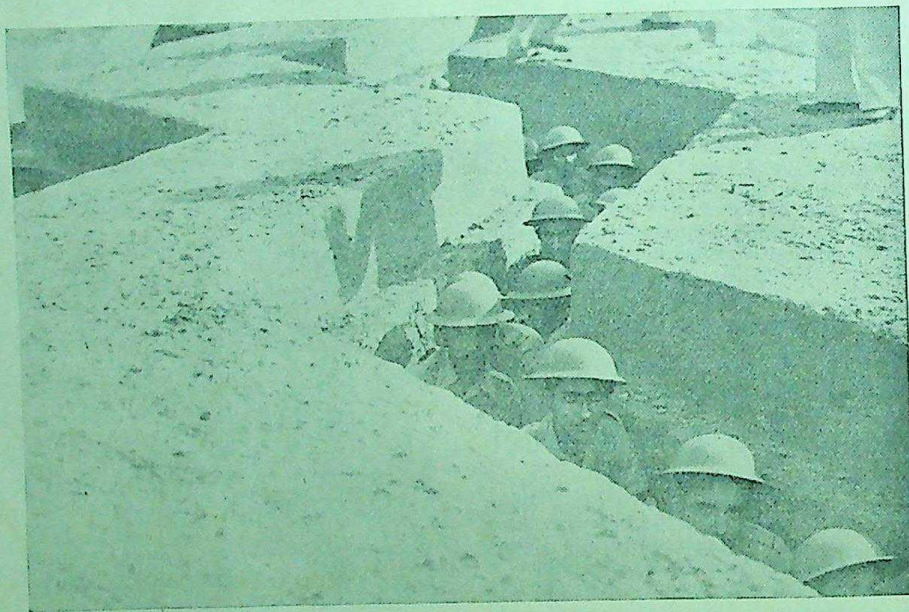
That "take cover" exercises for the public should be preceded by advice by wardens as to where individual householders should best take shelter was one of the lessons learnt from an extensive Combined Exercise held recently.

The object of such exercises, which normally cover a wide area, is to train the A. R. P. Services, the Police Service and any other Services concerned with Civil Defence, to work together. They are tests of the organisation for despatching the various Services to the scene of an incident, ready and equipped to deal with it. They are also designed to test communications and the leadership of Services and of units of Services under circumstances approximating to actual air raid conditions.

Lessons learnt from these exercises are circulated by the Civil Defence Department to all Provincial Governments and Chief Commissioners for guidance.

## Warden's Duties

Wardens have important duties to carry out, including assessing air raid damage, reporting it concisely and correctly, guiding and assisting the A. R. P. Services sent to deal with it, and giving general assistance and guidance to members of the public before, during and after air raids. But undoubtedly the most essential part of a warden's



CALCUTTA A.R.P. WARDENS DEMONSTRATE HOW TO TAKE SHELTER IN A SLIT TRENCH

duty is to educate the inhabitants of his ward.

The recent Combined Exercise emphasised the need for simple but intensive propaganda, and it has been suggested to Provincial Governments that "take cover" exercises for the public should be staged separately from the exercises for the A. R. P. Services.

These "take cover" exercises should first be carried out in a small area of a town and then extended to the whole of it. They should not be too frequent nor last too long. The public, it is pointed out, cannot be expected to take cover for long periods, that is three or four hours or more, at several times of the day and several days in succession. The exercises should last about 15 minutes only, but the take cover rules should be strictly enforced.

During the Combined Exercise the public seemed apathetic at most places. It is, however, merely a matter of training to ensure that they do take an interest in this subject which is so vital to their own safety. Lack of equipment cannot be accepted as an excuse for lack of training. As the war situation develops, equipment is sent to the area most threatened. Certain areas are, therefore, at the present moment low in the order of priority in the supply of equipment.

In these areas, improvisation is necessary and, where equipment is available, as many people as possible should be trained in its use, so that they may not be entirely ignorant when the equipment does arrive. One of the first lessons that the public must be taught is that there can be no disinterested spectators during an air raid.





FIRE-FIGHTING PARTY PUTTING OUT A FIRE DURING AN A.R.P. DEMONSTRATION IN CALCUTTA

Much can be done if people put out fires and assist the injured prior to the arrival of the A. R. P. Services. There is great need for the realisation that the "let someone else do it" attitude may prove fatal in actual air raid conditions.

#### Traffic Control

During the Exercise, traffic control was efficient, except in one respect. Wardens and Police stopped pedestrians and animal-drawn vehicles at cross-roads. This caused congestion in areas which might well prove to be targets for enemy bombing. The reason for this congestion was, first, that wardens and police were usually posted at cross-roads and, second, that pedestrians and animal-drawn vehicles did not stop and get off the road until told to do so by an official.

The public must realise that it is not sufficient merely to get off the road. Everyone, not engaged in important work, *must take cover*.

#### Water Supply

In India, probably the greatest danger from an air attack is fire. In spite of this, the water supply in some areas is still inadequate. Alternative means are essential, and the answer would appear to be to have a large number of static tanks. Many have been constructed but the number is still insufficient and steps must be taken rapidly to see that they are brought up to full requirements.

Without exception, the civil firms engaged in the Exercise co-operated in full and were well prepared.

It was shown that the closest liaison is necessary between not only the various Services or Departments but also between officials in the same Service or Department. On occasion, it was found that liaison was lacking even between wardens in different wards. Finally, the results of the Combined Exercise emphasised the necessity for Provincial Governments to have Training Officers to tour and advise Training Officers of towns on how to set exercises and carry out training.

## HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST GLASS SPLINTERS

**"T**o provide complete protection against glass splinters the most effective and cheapest method is completely to remove the glass." This advice, given in Part I (Refuge Rooms) of A.R.P. Handbook No. 6 (India)—"Domestic Air Raid Shelters"—is being applied by the Government of India in the cases of the North Block and South Block of the Imperial Secretariat. For A.R.P. purposes, glass panes of certain windows, fanlights and clerestories are being removed from all the floors and will be replaced by 3-ply wood.

In the section devoted to protection from glass splinters, A.R.P. Handbook No. 6 gives details of how protection from blast and splinters can be provided in a refuge room. The handbook states:—

#### Impossible To Forecast

It should be noted that nothing stuck on the glass will make any material difference to the amount of glass broken by blast, nor can any simple bracing system, so far examined, be relied on to help matters. There is no question of an adhesive treatment saving the glass. The object is to prevent, or at least reduce, casualties from the violent widespread scattering of broken glass.

It is impossible to forecast which glass will or will not be broken, and likewise it is impossible to forecast whether the broken glass will fall inwards or outwards. Glass in interior partitions, doors, screens, fanlights, pictures, etc., can be as dangerous as that in external walls. If such glass does not serve any useful purpose, it should be removed and, if necessary, replaced by a non-splinter material either opaque or translucent as required.

Attention must be given to all glass in the refuge room. Even if the window is barricaded completely, the glass is still liable to be broken by blast and if a gap, no matter how small, is left above the top or round the sides of the barricade, panes, even those well below the top of the barricade, will most certainly be broken and the glass scattered violently over the interior of the room, unless precautions are taken.

The erection of a barricade may necessitate the removal of some of the glass or even a whole window frame. **BUT IT IS MOST STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT ALL THE GLASS BE REMOVED** and those portions above the barricade given weather protection by means of light shutters or strong canvas blinds, etc.

#### Anti-splinter Protection

Although it is so strongly recommended that all glass in a refuge room should be removed, there may be a few cases where, for various reasons, this is not practicable. In these circumstances one of the following forms of anti-splinter protection must be applied.

(i) *Wire netting*.—Wire netting of mesh not larger than  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch or  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch will stop a very large proportion of the flying glass. It should be firmly fixed on the inside of the windows and as close as possible to the glass. It may be nailed to the window frame, but this will make the window difficult to clean and open. A better way is to fix to a detachable wooden frame made to fit in the window opening. Additional protection against the smaller fragments may be obtained by inserting one or two



## CIVIL DEFENCE



CALCUTTA A. R. P. DECONTAMINATION SQUAD DEALS WITH A GAS BOMB



DECONTAMINATION SQUAD SPRAYING WATER ON TO A GAS BOMB

layers of muslin between the wire and the glass. Where fly-proof screens for windows are already in existence they may be adopted to serve the dual purpose.

### Protective Screens

(ii) *Light-weight screen.*—A light-weight screen fixed over the window opening on the inside has three uses. Should the window be broken it will stop flying pieces of glass; it will give weather protection; and it will also act as black-out. A screen is, therefore, probably the best thing to use in a refuge room. The use of an adhesive treatment on the glass, in addition, is not necessary but may be used as an extra precaution.

The screen should be made of a light sheet material nailed to a wooden frame. Materials such as plywood, building board, fibre board, corrugated fibre packing board, roofing felt, matting, etc., are all suitable. Asbestos cement sheets should not be used, as a brittle material of this kind will behave

in a manner very similar to glass when subjected to blast. Some of the materials which are very stiff (such as plywood, building board, etc.) can be used in small windows without a supporting frame. Screens of paper or cloth will not stop flying pieces of glass.

It should be noted that such screens, although they may be displaced by blast, cause the broken glass to fall close to the window. *Protective screens of all types must be in place during raids.*

### Anti-scatter Treatment

(iii) *Anti-scatter treatment.*—This method should be used where, for various reasons, (i) and (ii) above are not practicable, although it may be used in addition to light-weight screens as an extra measure of safety. Panes of glass properly covered by adhesive anti-scatter treatments will remain in place under mild blast, even if badly cracked, but under severe blast they may fall out bodily. The most economical and effective treatment

of this kind for use in India will be a strong textile netting or other fabric firmly stuck to the inside of the glass. Glass in internal screens, etc., which cannot be removed should be treated on both sides. The fabric should extend over the glazing bars and be stuck to them as well as to the glass. Any form of strong textile netting with mesh not larger than about  $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. will be suitable. Curtain netting or muslin are quite effective.

The success of the treatment is mainly dependent on the strength of the adhesive used. The fabric may tend to come unstuck if the window gets damp. This can be improved by applying a coat of varnish to the edges or, better, over the whole of the fabric when it is thoroughly dry, using an oil varnish, not a spirit varnish or cellulose lacquer. If a water adhesive is used, add  $\frac{1}{4}$ -oz. of borax to one pint of the paste to prevent mildew.

### Dope Or Varnish

Instead of a water adhesive, a preparation insoluble in water may be used, such as dope or varnish, which does not dry hard and brittle. The preparation is brushed or sprayed on the glass and the fabric then pressed into place while the surface is tacky. After the net has been attached to the glass, a coat of the material used for attaching it should be applied over the net.

The use of paper is not recommended, as the labour involved and the adhesive used is equivalent to that required for netting, and this method is, therefore, not economical.

The success of this form of treatment is mainly dependent on the strength of the adhesive used. The windows should, therefore, be examined from time to time and if necessary the netting should be removed and refixed. If the strength of the netting has diminished it should be replaced by new material.

Transparent film is both expensive and scarce, but may be obtainable in limited quantities. If used, it should be fixed in accordance with the makers' instructions. The use of a material thinner than that known as "600" is not recommended.

### A Warning

A number of so-called anti-splinter liquid coatings has been put on the market in the United Kingdom and it is likely that they may be offered for sale in India. Many proprietary materials of this class have been advertised with extravagant claims. Intending purchasers are warned against accepting the unauthenticated claims of advertisers. These materials are apparently easy to apply, but in practice it is not so easy to get a coat of satisfactory thickness.

These coatings usually contain rubber latex and are, therefore, very liable to lose their protective value when exposed to light, particularly strong sunlight. Some preparations tested in the United Kingdom were unreliable from the start, and very few survived three months' exposure. It is quite evident that their life in a hot climate would be much shorter, and they are, therefore, considered unsuitable for use in India.

REMEMBER THAT THE BEST AND CHEAPEST PROTECTION AGAINST GLASS SPLINTERS LIES IN THE COMPLETE REMOVAL OF ALL GLASS. THIS SHOULD BE DONE WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1942





MEMBERS OF A DECONTAMINATION SQUAD IN CALCUTTA WITH THEIR GAS-PROOF SUITS AND EQUIPMENT TO DEAL WITH GAS BOMBS

## MAN WHO LAUGHED AT A. R. P.

**T**he Japanese never took Singapore by bombing from the air, writes a journalist from Singapore. Just as in London, Singapore A. R. P. services were on their toes. They had learned from the best advice that bomb-torn London could send, that all depended on speed—and that meant in Singapore speed in handling fire, the journalist adds.

When the Japanese planes came over the sunlit clouds to bomb, they did not drop the immense explosives which the Germans used to wreck London. Experts said that the worst was little more than 250 kilos, and many of these lost their explosive effect by being for dual purpose—partly for damage by blast and partly as incendiary. Because naturally the Jap was thinking in terms of Tokyo and the cities he had bombed in China—light paper and wood affairs which a few incendiary bombs and a steady breeze would obliterate far more efficiently than many tons of straight explosives.

So Singapore developed her fire-fighting services in advance of practically every other sort of passive defence precaution. Every business and Government office in the city was visited periodically by fire-fighting instructors. The staffs gathered round them in the evenings and watched their squads tackle home-made incendiary bombs on the concrete roofs. These home-made practice bombs were cigarette tins packed

with magnesium, which, crudely, acted visually and chronologically like the real article.

### Man Who Was Forearmed

I remember Hu Hsieh, a Chinese printer's compositor, who joined the fire-fighting services a few days before that night of December 7-8 when the Japanese treacherously dropped their first bombs on an unsuspecting and temporarily undefended city.

Late one night in January a thud awoke Hu Hsieh in his bedroom in a typical little Chinese street. He slipped out of bed and saw the stars move on what looked like a patch on the ceiling. Hu Hsieh was immediately wide awake. He knew at once that the stars were shining through a hole in the roof and he glanced beneath and saw there was also a ragged hole in the floor.

He shouted to his wife. "There's an incendiary bomb in the house," he said, shaking her. And she got up and helped him unemotionally as she had so often done before in their fire fighting practices, to form their two-strong domestic anti-fire team. Hsieh went to the corner where the stirrup pump stood, as it should; Mrs. Hsieh found the water bucket, already properly filled, on the landing outside their bedroom door; Hsieh grabbed another bucket of sand and a spade that stood ready in it; and they both pattered downstairs to the lower room.

This takes a long time to tell, but from the moment that Hsieh awoke because of the thud and the moment that they had reached the ground floor, there was an interval of not more than two minutes. Even so the bomb they sought had already started a preliminary sputter. Hsieh stood watching it, his wife behind him, to see what it would do. He and she crouched low in case it should explode, but when they realised that it was a simple incendiary with no complications (as some have) he adjusted the nozzle of his fire hose and his wife began to pump in the bucket. The water came out in a fine spray, which he directed on the bomb. Soon the bomb was harmless as a lump of lead and Hsieh turned the full jet on the floor boards where there was still some smouldering. In a few minutes he shovelled the bomb into the sand bucket, refilled the water bucket, threw the bomb away and replaced the sand. Then Mr. and Mrs. Hsieh yawned and went back to bed.

This is a commonplace story. It happened all over Singapore. It has happened in Rangoon, as it has happened in London, Berlin, Hamburg, Southampton—and now, no doubt, Tokyo. But it is worth telling because of a coincidence. For Hsieh had a cousin, a cheery but lazy and optimistic fellow named Keong Tong Lim. Lim lived in the same sort of house and no bomb fell on it that night.

But early in February, when the bombs were falling thickly, one did choose to hit the roof of Mr. Lim. And Mr. Lim had always grinned at A. R. P. He and his wife had no bucket nor spade. He would



## CIVIL DEFENCE

### LIFE INSURANCE FOR ONE ANNA IDENTITY DISCS FOR CIVIL POPULATION

say they were not children and did not paddle at the seaside and, as for the Japanese, why should they hit his house particularly, unimportant confectioner as he was?

So when the bomb struck his place that February night and began to sputter, then burn with its intense white glare, eating at his house, lapping flames into his furniture and destroying in a few minutes what he had spent years in gathering together, why, the Lims simply had to get out into the street.

They also had to watch the flames completely devour their house and invade the houses of the neighbours until only "fire engines and masses of auxiliary fire-fighters could halt the blaze."

Of course, Lim joined the Auxiliary Fire Service after he had seen this. Better late than never. A lot of damage to obtain one recruit. But the Japanese did not take Singapore by bombing. That was because Hsieh was typical of Singapore. Not Lim.

### DELHI BLOOD BANK

Led by Mr. A. W. Ibbotson, Secretary of the Department and Director-General of Civil Defence in India, officers, assistants, stenographers, clerks and a daftry of the Civil Defence Department contributed to the Blood Bank which is being formed in Delhi.

Lt.-Col. M. M. Cruickshank, Chief Medical Officer, Delhi Province, and staff from the Irwin Hospital visited the North Block of the Imperial Secretariat for this purpose and the Committee Room of the Civil Defence Department was converted into an "Operation Theatre" for a brief period. Officers and staff of other Departments also donated their blood.

The motive for donating blood is self-protection as well as humanitarian. The giving of blood does not hurt nor is it injurious. The blood is taken through a needle from a vein in the arm and the insertion of the needle is no more than a pin-prick. In many cases, the giving of blood is beneficial, particularly to individuals who have slightly high blood pressure.

#### Blood Transfusion Service

The amount of blood taken depends upon the individual's weight and, at the most, is 10 to 12 ounces, which is much less than one-third of what an individual can lose before having any after-effects. This amount of blood is replaced by the body in three weeks. Any healthy person can safely donate 500 c.c. (about 17 ounces) of blood as often as once every two months.

Every city should have a Blood Transfusion Service, for this is a purely humanitarian service, which is of benefit both in peace and in wartime. Hospital patients, suffering from shock, due either to loss of blood or to injuries, such as fractures or severe burns, often require blood transfusion.

By volunteering to give your blood, you are possibly taking the first step towards saving the life of some unfortunate patient, air-raid victim in your own town, or even your own life.

The Blood Bank operates on the same principles as an ordinary bank. Individuals deposit and may withdraw their deposit at any time.

The Government of India's scheme for the issue of identity discs for the civil population has been accepted by a number of provinces.

This system of personal identification is commonplace in countries liable to air attack. Possession of a disc ensures compensation and pensions for dependants of air raid victims; in the absence of a disc, it might prove difficult for dependants to substantiate a claim.

Compensation for dependants can, therefore, be ensured for one anna—the suggested price of a disc.

The Government of India are manufacturing the disc centrally and distributing them in bulk to Provincial Governments.

The discs are covered with red cellulose paint and bored with two holes so that they can either be hung round the neck or tied to the wrist or arm. They have been subjected to exhaustive scientific tests in the Government Test House at Alipore and have been found in every way suitable for this purpose.

#### Series Of Numbers

The discs are stamped with a series of numbers from 1 to 9,999, each series of numbers being preceded by a letter of the alphabet. Each alphabetical series, therefore, covers roughly 260,000 discs. Below the serial number is stamped a Roman numeral. As Roman numerals are illimitable, this system allows of any number of discs being issued and the Roman numeral, read together with the letter of the alphabet, indicates at once the exact area to which an identity disc refers.

Lists are furnished to all Provincial Governments of the areas to which identity discs are issued and the distinguishing Roman numerals and letters of the alphabet and serial numbers of the issues.

Religion is shown by stamping, above the serial number on the disc, letters such as 'H' for Hindu, 'M' for Muslim, 'P' for Parsi, 'S' for Sikh, 'J' for Jain, 'JE' for Jew and so on.

The stamping of the discs is left to Provincial Governments, as any attempt to do this at the Centre would complicate supply problems.

Arrangements for sale of the discs are being made by the Provincial Governments through agencies such as post offices, police stations, sub-registry offices, local self-government bodies, large shops, managers of large industrial concerns, railways as regards railway employees and their families, and Air Raid Wardens, by house-to-house visits.

As each identity disc is sold, a chalan in duplicate is to be filled up (by the purchaser, if literate, or if not, by the selling agent) giving the following information in block capitals:—number of disc and religious marking, name and address of person to whom issued, father's or husband's name, caste or sect within main religion, and name and address of the next of kin.

One carbon copy is to be kept for record and accounts purposes by the vendor and the original sent to the local Air Raid Precautions authorities for filing in their Civil Defence Information Bureau.

As these chalans are of the greatest importance, it has been suggested to Provincial Governments that they should have them made out in triplicate and have the original and one carbon copy sent to them in order that the copies can be kept in some place of safety outside the danger areas, in case the originals are destroyed.

Provincial Governments will arrange for the printing and distribution of the chalans.

#### Steps To Inform Relatives

From the chalan, the local Civil Defence Information Bureau can enter in its casualty lists the name and address of the person to whom the disc had belonged and take any other steps to inform relatives which Provincial Governments may prescribe.

When a chalan indicates that the next of kin of a casualty is a serving soldier, particulars of the casualty will be forwarded as soon as possible to the nearest Military District Headquarters, who will inform the serving soldier.

### PRECAUTIONS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

Under Section 10 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (of 1890), "when any Magistrate, Commissioner of Police or District Superintendent of Police has reason to believe that an offence against this Act has been committed in respect of any animal, he may direct the immediate destruction of the animal if, in his opinion, its sufferings are such as to render such a direction proper."

These powers do not cover animals seriously injured in an enemy attack (such as an air raid or naval bombardment) or animals which, during an enemy attack, are likely to stampede through streets and roads, causing panic and the disruption of essential services, such as Fire Brigades, Rescue Parties, and Ambulances.

While the Veterinary Services and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals will care for wounded animals, it may be necessary, either on humanitarian grounds or in the interests of public safety, or of maintaining public order, to destroy animals which have been seriously injured, or which are dangerous, or at large, or out of control, as a result of enemy action.

It is not the intention that this rule should be used except in case of absolute necessity, and there need be no fear that animals, whose owners are temporarily untraceable, will be destroyed unless they are in fact a danger.

A new Defence of India rule, published on April 18, 1942, gives the Central and Provincial Governments the necessary powers.



# LIEUT.-GENERAL MOLESWORTH ON THE RUSSO-GERMAN WAR

In June 1941, the Soviet Union was at peace amid a world suffering the agonies of war. Intent on her own preoccupations she might have had reasons to think that, by virtue of her pact of friendship with Germany, she would be safe from aggression by her somewhat unnatural Nazi bed-fellows, and thus had no particular cause for alarm. There had, however, been indications that she was aware that trouble was brewing in the land of the Double Cross, declared Lieut.-General G. N. Molesworth in a broadcast from All-India Radio, Delhi, on June 22, 1942, the anniversary of the Russo-German war.

He added: On June 22, just a year ago today, she was attacked by the strongest military machine the world has yet seen, and became yet another prospective victim of the familiar Nazi technique of launching a treacherous surprise attack under cover of ostentatious friendship. The attack was launched on a front stretching from the Arctic to the Balkans. The element of surprise enabled the Nazi mechanised forces to gain formidable momentum, particularly as Russian mobilisation was incomplete, and indeed was not completed until weeks afterwards.

## Three-Pronged Attack

The Nazi attack was three-pronged, and comprised drives on Leningrad and Moscow in the north and Kiev in the south. Everything the Germans could make available on land and air was thrown into the fight. It is clear from the pronouncements of the Germans themselves that they expected within a period of six weeks to break up and demoralise the Russian armies and the population behind them. Then, his rear secure, and with the oilfields of the Caucasus in his possession, Hitler calculated that he would be able to turn again safely to the West, devote his attention to the invasion of the British Isles and thus bring the whole war to an early conclusion.

Taken unawares, faced with an onslaught of a fury hitherto unknown in history, the Russians had no alternative but to withdraw. This was, however, no hurried, disorderly withdrawal; on the contrary, every step was bitterly contested. Losses on both sides during the autumn—and later during the winter—were very heavy. In the offensive and the counter-offensive Germany lost over one and a half million men—killed and wounded. The effect of these losses on German armoured and motorised formations was very great and has had its effect on the quality of her forces in Russia today.

The Russians during the course of the war had formed their own ideas of how to deal with German panzer tactics.

## Soviet Methods Of Warfare

Instead of adopting the orthodox defence measures which had been practised without success in Western Europe, the Russians evolved special methods of their own. These, put briefly, were that when the inevitable panzer spearhead made its forward rush, the Russians would obligingly open their lines and allow it to proceed. Later, when the German mechanised advance guard had got through, the Russians would close in behind it, cutting it off from supplies and infantry support. Combined with this was the destructive effect of large concentrations of mobile artillery and a miraculous maintenance of air superiority on the decisive front. To the Russians goes the



LIEUT.-GENERAL G. N. MOLESWORTH, C. S. I.

credit of being the first modern army to evolve a technique to deal effectively and destructively with the Panzer menace.

Nevertheless, faced as she was with three-quarters of Germany's mobilised divisions and the vast majority of her mechanised units, Russia was forced to draw back step by step, constantly avoiding Nazi attempts at encirclement. Her policy was to withdraw gradually while inflicting the maximum of casualties in men and material on the enemy. Like China, she gave no thought to loss of territory or property. The world was shown the most self-sacrificing examples of protective destruction, culminating in the breaking of the giant dam at Dnieperprostoi, an engineering achievement which was the pride of Russia.

## Nazi Drives

The war continued, months longer than the Germans or the world expected, through June, July and August. In September, terrific Nazi drives were launched, which the Russian armies, while still withdrawing, skilfully parried. The approach of winter forced upon the Nazis the realisation that unless an early decision could be reached, they would be faced with a winter campaign in Russia which Hitler had assured them could never occur.

A tremendous and widespread push ensued to batter in the defences of Leningrad, overrun the Eastern Ukraine, envelop Moscow and capture the Crimea. October saw the darkest days of the campaign for Russia. Odessa, after a heroic defence, fell before the Axis onslaught, and Moscow was seriously threatened from several directions simultaneously. Even in the climax of the crisis, however, the Russians did not relax their determination. They realised that Moscow was the city of the Revolution, that its retention would have an immense moral effect on the spirit and endurance of the workers, and resolved to

defend it to the last. Over 50 divisions and nearly two-thirds of Germany's mechanised forces were operating round Moscow—but the Russian line held.

## Russian Counter-Offensive

December marked the end of Russia's role as defender. A spellbound world had witnessed the unbelievable. The supposed irresistible force had come in conflict with the immovable mass which had shattered the legend of invincibility. The Russian armies, after retreating for six long months, suffering heavy losses, and witnessing the loss of much territory, suddenly turned on the enemy and gave him a taste of his own medicine. Gradually, inexorably a strong Russian counter-offensive developed, and the mighty German army, flushed by initial success, was forced back. Rarely in the annals of military history has a retreating army turned on its assailants so effectively.

The threat to Moscow was removed, a vast number of places occupied by the Germans retaken, and the enemy forced to bring up additional divisions which he had earmarked for the Spring Offensive to storm the retreat. Moreover, this counter-offensive gave the remainder of the German forces in Russia little or no time in which to re-equip and rest and this was perhaps the most far-reaching result achieved. The Germans will long preserve bitter memories of the winter campaign of 1941-42 and of the harassing attacks of guerillas. Those who survived will be haunted by the gaunt spectre of another winter in Russian snows—if they are not ejected before then.

Owing to the destructive effect of the winter campaign the Spring failed to produce the much heralded German offensive until a few weeks ago, when renewed fighting broke out on the Kerch peninsula and around Kharkov. In Kerch the Germans have been successful, but not without heavy loss. In the region of Kharkov, the Russians struck first, thus anticipating the main German "pincer" offensive. The battle for Kharkov undoubtedly postponed this German offensive for some weeks. The advance has been scotched but not killed.

## Tribute To Russians

The achievements of the Russian land and air forces and their resilience in their ordeal command the highest admiration.

[ CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ]

## GENERAL WAVELL'S MESSAGE

His Excellency General Sir Archibald Wavell, Commander-in-Chief in India, has sent the following message to the Commander of the Russian Forces on the first anniversary of the Russo-German War:

On what I hope may prove the only anniversary during the war of the treacherous blow struck by Germany against your country, I beg you to convey to the indomitable land, sea and air forces of Russia, greetings from myself and from the fighting services of the India Command. The courage and endurance of the Russian Forces and the Russian people have rightly evoked the admiration and gratitude of the world. We wish all success to your arms. I should like to add a personal message of good wishes to a people and a country I have known and so greatly liked since more than thirty years ago.



# COMMERCE-INDUSTRY-FINANCE

## REVISED NEWSPAPER CONTROL ORDER AMENDED

A representation was made to the Government of India in connection with the revised Newspaper Control Order, 1942, which came into force on June 1, 1942.

Where a daily newspaper has registered its weekly edition as a separate newspaper and where the weekly edition is of the same class as the other editions of the daily newspaper, the unused portion, if any, of the quota applicable to the daily newspaper should be allowed to be used for the purposes of the weekly edition.

For example, a daily newspaper of Class A which is sold at 2 annas on week days and of which the Sunday edition of the same class is sold at 3 annas on Sundays, will be entitled, under the revised Order, to a weekly quota of 56 pages in respect of its daily editions and a four-weekly quota of 48 pages in respect of its Sunday editions. It was represented that if such a newspaper published six daily editions of 8 pages each and thus saved 8 pages of its weekly quota, it should be allowed to add these 8 pages to its Sunday edition, though the latter is formally registered as a separate newspaper.

### Unused Weekly Quota

The Government of India considered this request and issued a notification on May 25, 1942, amending the revised Newspaper Control Order, so as to permit a daily newspaper to transfer the unused portion of its weekly quota not exceeding one-seventh part of such quota to its weekly edition when the latter is registered as a separate newspaper and is of the same class as the other editions.

It has already been announced that those newspapers which were being published on all days of the week during the twelve months ending April 30, 1942, but which have not registered their weekly edition as a separate newspaper, might effect the registration not later than June 30, 1942, if they desired to get the benefit accruing from such registration in respect of the number of pages allowed under the Newspaper Control Order.

## THE RUSSO-GERMAN WAR

[CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

Taken by surprise, savagely attacked by overwhelming forces, forced to retreat, suffering heavy losses—despite all this, the Soviet forces face the future with morale high and confirmed in the resolution that this year must see the extirpation of the Nazi scourge. The Soviet peoples are confident of victory and the grounds for their confidence are to be found in the spirit of Soviet soldiers, airmen and workers. The outcome of Russia's battle against aggression in the next few months will have a decisive effect on the course of the whole war. Whatever the vicissitudes may be, we have every reason to believe that the Soviet peoples under their resolute and gallant leader Tovarich Josef Stalin will stand firm. That they will have need of all the resolution, steadfastness and courage they can summon there is little doubt. The Nazi offensive has been delayed but it will come again. During the next few months the sympathy of the Allied Nations will be with the Russian peoples and the growing strength of Allied force ever increasingly behind them and beside them in their struggle against the common foe.

## RESTRICTIONS AGAINST INDIAN TRADERS IN PANAMA

The Panama Government law for the Nationalisation of Retail Trade came into force against British subjects in Panama on March 24, 1942. There are some 40 British Indian merchants in Panama and some 70 Indians operating lorry businesses and petrol filling stations. Other British subjects include Europeans, West Indians and Palestinians, and all to a greater or less extent have incurred losses as a result of this law.

In March, 1941, the Panama Government passed a law for the Nationalisation of the Retail Trade, the object of which was to make it illegal for any person not a subject of Panama to engage in trade. On March 24, the Panama Government denounced the Anglo-Panamanian Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed on September 25, 1928. On April 2, 1941, the Mayor of Panama city ordered Indian merchants to liquidate their businesses or to sell out to Panamanians within a fortnight. On April 7, a similar order was given to Indians owning and operating omnibus services and selling petrol. His Majesty's Minister at once made energetic representations to the Panama Government as a result of which both orders were withdrawn. The resulting situation was that the Nationalisation Law could not be put into effect against British subjects, Indian or otherwise, until the expiry of the Anglo-Panamanian Treaty. This expired a year after its denunciation on March 24, 1942.

During the summer of 1941, His Majesty's Representative continued to press

for a modification of the law and, when this was found to be useless, put forward a claim to compensation at international law under the doctrine of acquired rights. The Panama Government, however, declined to accept this doctrine as generally understood, in civilised countries.

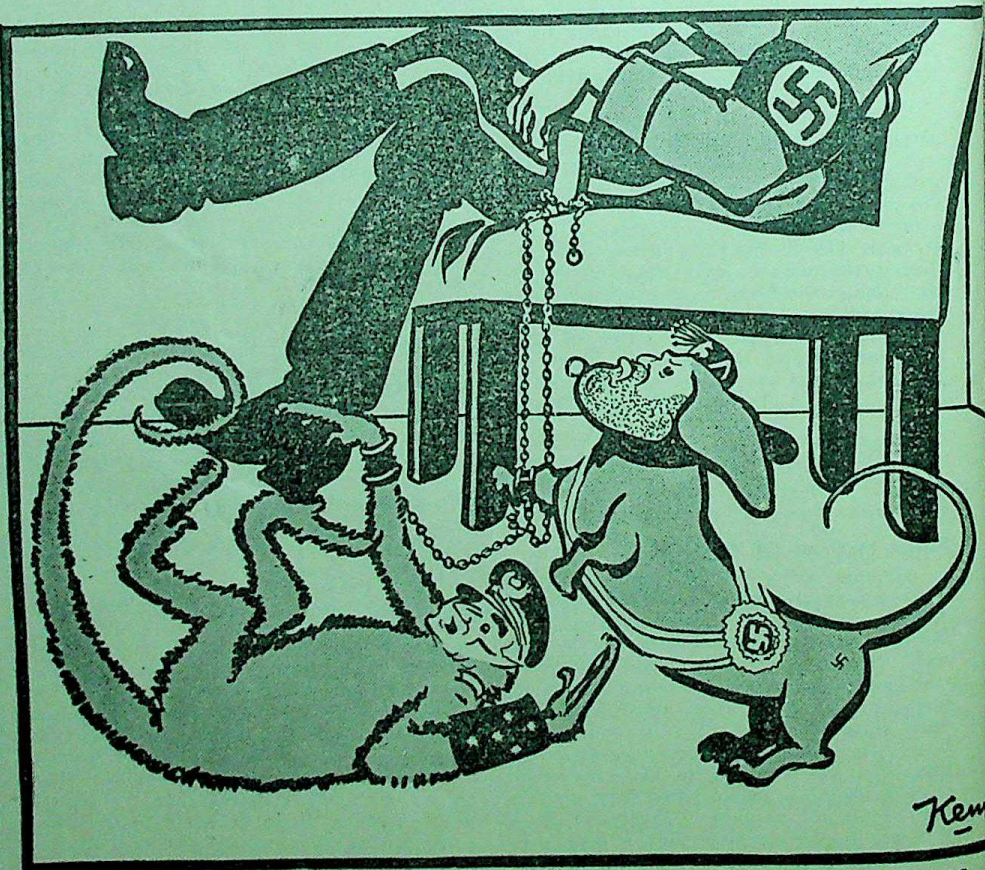
The Government of India have requested His Majesty's Government to render the Indian community every possible assistance with a view to its re-establishment elsewhere or its repatriation.

## AGAR-AGAR CONTROL

The Government of India have issued an order controlling the sale and use of Agar-Agar. Both the United Kingdom and United States of America have already found it necessary to control this substance.

Obtained as a seaweed mainly on the sea coast round Japan, Agar-Agar or as it is usually called Agar is essential to workers in bacteriological laboratories. When Agar is added in a certain proportion to broth or other nutrient medium on which bacteria are grown, the medium when cooled sets to a jelly at the usual temperature at which bacteria grow.

There are other uses of Agar, such as, in forming an agreeable emulsion with liquid paraffin, but these must be abandoned in war time and Agar restricted to its use in bacteriological laboratories.



"WHAT IS ALL THIS NONSENSE TALK ABOUT HITLER BEING OUR MASTER?..."



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

## FOOD GRAINS CONTROL ORDER

The Government of India, on May 22, 1942, issued a Food Grains Control Order under which all persons, other than the producers of food grains, engaged in any undertaking which involves the purchase, sale or storage for sale in wholesale quantities (that is, quantities exceeding 20 maunds in any one transaction) of any of the specified food grains will be required to apply to the Provincial Government for a licence.

This has been done in pursuance of a recommendation of the Fifth Price Control Conference that, to ensure effective control over the prices and supplies of food grains, the Government of India should issue an order requiring all wholesale dealers in food grains to be licensed.

The food grains specified are paddy, rice, wheat (including wheat products), jowar, bajra, barley, ragi, gram and maize. The date on which the Order will come into force and the food grains to which it will apply in each province will be notified by the Provincial Government.

### Issue Of Licences

Licences will be issued free of charge and will, as a rule, be available to all established dealers, millers and other *bona fide* manufacturers of food products. The normal channels of trade will thus be left undisturbed as far as possible. Retailers whose business involves the purchase of food grains in quantities exceeding 20 maunds in a single transaction, will also be required to take out a licence. Wholesale purchases of food grains by consumers will be prohibited, except where the provincial licensing authority is satisfied that special circumstances exist, for example, when an employer in a vulnerable locality desires to lay in a small reserve for his workers and a case is made out for the necessity of building up such a reserve.

Licence-holders will be required to keep accounts in a prescribed manner and to submit monthly returns of their purchases, sales and stocks.

The object of the Order is to maintain close supervision over the prices and stocks of food grains throughout British India, and any wholesale dealer who contravenes the price control regulations of the Central or the Provincial Government, the provisions of this Order or the conditions of the licence issued to him, will be liable to be expelled from the wholesale trade. It is hoped that the Order will also serve to put an effective check on the hoarding of food grains by consumers, which has been an important contributory cause of the recent rise in prices.

### FUTURE CONTRACTS IN WHEAT AND GRAM BANNED

In a recent Press Note the Government of India expressed concern at the persistent rise in the current and forward wholesale wheat prices at Hapur which in their opinion was due to speculative activities, and warned all concerned that undisciplined and ill-conducted associations indulging in speculative activities would be suppressed. It would appear that the warning has not been taken seriously by

those against whom it was directed and wholesale wheat prices continue to rise at Hapur, and, in sympathy with Hapur, at other markets. Prices are rising to higher levels day by day at the time when normally, owing to the arrival of the new crop, they should show an easier tendency.

The Government of India are satisfied that this result has been brought about by speculative activities which if allowed to go any further will soon render control inoperative and drive the wheat underground. What has been said of wheat applies to other food grains as well, particularly gram. The Government, therefore, issued orders on May 28, 1942, prohibiting for the present all future contracts in wheat and gram. They will issue similar orders in regard to other food grains should they find the present unjustified rise in the prices of those food grains is not checked. Should the wholesale prices in wheat and gram get back to a more reasonable level, Government will reconsider the question of re-opening the futures markets. If and when future transactions are permitted they will have to be

conducted on a regulated basis and speculators cannot be allowed free play to push up or bring down prices according to the view they choose to take of the market.

The Wheat Commissioner is aware that recent unfavourable developments are the direct result of the activities of certain speculators whose activities in the opinion of Government have proved definitely harmful. The Wheat Commissioner will watch the future activities of such speculators and will not hesitate to take suitable action against them including, if necessary, criminal prosecutions under the Defence of India Rules.

Inquiries are still being received in the Office of the Wheat Commissioner for India as to the rate at which futures and options in wheat and gram outstanding for settlement on May 28, 1942, the date on which the prohibition of futures and options came into force, are to be settled. The Food Grains (Futures and Options) Order specifically provides that all outstanding futures in wheat and gram shall be settled at the rates prevailing at the close of business on May 27, 1942, while all outstanding options in these food grains shall be void within the meaning of the Indian Contracts Act.

## NO EXPORT OF WHEAT FROM U. P. UNTIL NORMAL CONDITIONS RETURN

The United Provinces Government removed their ban on the export of wheat and wheat products early in April, and for the rest of that month free exports were permitted provided certain particulars were furnished to the Wheat Commissioner in respect of the consignments of wheat exported from the province. An examination of these returns clearly shows that advantage was taken of the temporary removal of restrictions to export wheat from the producing centres in U. P. to consuming centres both inside and outside the province in quantities far in excess of the normal exports to those places in the past. This is reflected in the steady rise in prices at Hapur and other markets in U. P. The continued firming up of prices also shows a steady demand in the centres both inside and outside the province. This is further borne out by the disinclination on the part of stockists to stock wheat.

According to Press reports the number of "Khattis" is approximately six as against nearly 300 "Khattis" about this time (middle of May) last year. In these circumstances, it is necessary that the excess exports in April from the producing centres in U. P. should be adjusted in the quotas for succeeding months. The Wheat Commissioner does not, therefore, propose to entertain any application for the present for export of wheat from U. P. markets until he is satisfied that conditions are returning to normal, as is to be expected very shortly when the excellent crop in the Punjab is fully moving.

### TRUE POSITION OF FOOD GRAIN SUPPLIES

The Government of India were some time ago addressed by the Indian Chamber

of Commerce, Calcutta, on the need to conserve food grain supplies in this country. The letter began with the remark that the Committee of the Chamber understood that the Government of India in the Political Department had circularised the various Indian States requesting them to supply to the Government about one million tons of food grains like wheat and bajra which presumably the latter desired to export. This presumption, they said, was further strengthened by certain other reports which their Committee received that the Government had hired certain godowns for the storage of wheat in the Bombay Port. The Committee invited attention to these reports in order to ascertain the true position. This letter was released to the Press before the Committee had allowed time for a reply to be sent to the allegations just quoted.

### Government's Policy

These allegations are entirely without foundation, and the Government of India can only deplore the recklessness with which they were made public without any serious attempt to verify them. The circular of the Political Department which is apparently referred to was issued to certain Indian States in February last inquiring whether they could release any wheat stocks to relieve the wheat shortage in British India where approximately 100,000 tons of wheat, including wheat flour were required immediately at certain centres.

The policy of the Government is to keep in India such stocks of food grains as are required for the maintenance of the life of the community and in consequence they have for a considerable time past restricted exports to certain quantities which represent normal imports of neighbouring countries, such as Arabia, that have always depended upon India for supplies, together with such



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

amounts of food grains as are required to fulfil the special commitments which the Government have undertaken in connection with Ceylon. That Island has now no other source of supply, and it is essential both in the interests of the Indian labouring population there and of the maintenance of the production of vital war supplies that the Island should be treated as coming within the economic orbit of India. The Government of India have not the slightest intention of allowing exports to any countries on anything like the scale indicated in the rumours quoted by the Chamber. The Government of India deplore this tendency to publish unfounded stories, seeking to escape responsibility for them by the suggestion that they are produced with a view to the true facts being made known. Responsible persons should remember the notorious fact that truth can rarely catch up with unfounded allegations.

## CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S ACCOUNTS

The statement of the Central Government's monthly accounts for April, 1942, shows that excluding periodical adjustments and the transactions of Railways and the Posts and Telegraphs Department, expenditure in that month exceeded revenue by Rs. 8½ crores as against Rs. 6 crores in April, 1941. Revenue was actually better by Rs. 1½ crores than in the corresponding period of the previous year, but Defence expenditure increased by Rs. 3 crores.

Net receipts from Railways are Rs. 1½ crores better but, although available to the Central Government for ways and means purposes, these do not affect the revenue position to their full extent since a portion will be utilised at the end of the year for the repayment of loans taken from the Railway Depreciation Reserve Fund.

Permanent debt shows a net reduction of Rs. ½ crore during this period.

## RESERVE BANK & BURMA NOTES

In view of the occupation of Burma by the enemy it has been decided to relieve the Reserve Bank of India of its liabilities for the Burma note issue and to transfer the assets held by the Reserve Bank on this account to the Government of India. The assets so transferred will be held in a suspense account from which the value of Burma notes presented for encashment will be paid and the balance of which will be finally disposed of after the war.

By an Ordinance issued on June 6, 1942, the Reserve Bank is prohibited from making payment for Burma notes except with the authorisation of the Government of India and in future references to Burma notes will be omitted from the accounts of the Reserve Bank.

## WAR RISKS (GOODS) INSURANCE

The Central Government have decided that the rate of premium payable under any policy of insurance issued under the War Risks (Goods) Insurance Ordinance, 1940, in respect of the quarter beginning on July 1, 1942, shall continue to be the same as at present, viz., three annas per month or part of a month for each complete sum of one hundred rupees.

# INDIA IS WORLD'S BIGGEST PRODUCER OF GROUNDNUT OIL

By improving the quality of groundnuts in India and better marketing there is ample scope for increasing the producer's share in the price paid by the ultimate consumer, says the report of the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India on the Marketing of Groundnuts.

India, which ranks first in the acreage and production of groundnuts, is now the biggest producer of groundnut oil in the world, though her share in the world trade in groundnut oil is negligible. At present the producer gets only about 10 annas in the rupee paid by wholesale buyers in India and about 7 annas 6 pies from every rupee obtained from London sales. The quality of Indian kernels is also not considered satisfactory in export markets, and better prices can be secured by improving the quality to the standard required by buyers. Economies in distribution can be brought about by eliminating wasteful practices and unnecessary handling.

Various suggestions to improve the quality of produce and marketing have now been published in an abridged edition of the main report to help the trade in taking a

wider outlook and securing better returns to groundnut growers.

### Yield Per Acre

It is suggested that efforts should be made by the Agricultural Department to increase the yield per acre on cultivators' fields. Research stations should produce nuts with a high percentage of kernels and producers should be told the advantages of harvesting the crop when fully mature as also of drying the pods before sale.

Larger quantities of improved seed should be distributed to cultivators and different varieties should be concentrated in suitable areas to the exclusion of other varieties.

For marketing, suggestions have been made for disseminating information, reduction of impurities, avoiding admixture of castor seed, reduction in market charges and adoption of standard contract. Recommendations for expansion of market for edible nuts in India, development of export trade in hand-picked selected nuts and kernels and groundnut oil have also been made in the report.

## SUGAR CONTROL PRICES RAISED

When price control for sugar was introduced on April 14, 1942, prices were fixed which it was thought would allow of the payment of such deferred bonus to cultivators in the United Provinces and Bihar as would bring up their receipts to seven annas per maund of sugarcane.

After further discussion with provincial authorities and non-official interests concerned, the Government of India have satisfied themselves that, having regard to the details of the current deferred bonus scheme as drawn up by the U.P. and Bihar Governments, this result will not be achieved on the basis of prices originally fixed and they have accordingly decided to ask the Sugar Controller for India to issue a revised schedule of ex factory prices, allowing a general advance of 7 annas 6 pies per maund of sugar.

The schedule was accordingly issued by a *Gazette Extraordinary* dated May 5. It provides that cases of sugar not covered by the schedule should be referred to the Sugar Controller for orders together with test certificates to be obtained from the Director of the Imperial Institute of Sugar Technology, Cawnpore.

### Statistics

The first memorandum on the production of sugar refined from *gur* in India during 1942, issued by the Director of the Imperial Institute of Sugar Technology, Cawnpore, estimates the production at 26,100 tons as against the actual production of 48,500 tons in 1941. The number of factories refining *gur* is estimated at twelve. The quantity of *gur* melted is estimated at 45,800 tons as against the actual figure of 87,800 tons in the previous year. The percentage recoveries of sugar and molasses

are estimated at 57.0 and 31.0 respectively, as against the actual recoveries of 55.6 and 36.7 in the previous year.

The memorandum on the production of sugar directly from cane in India during the season 1941-42, issued by the Director, Imperial Institute of Sugar Technology, Cawnpore, estimates the production at 797,800 tons as against the actual production of 1,095,400 tons in 1940-41. The number of factories working is estimated at 146 as against 148 in the previous season. The quantity of cane to be crushed is estimated at 8,234,700 tons as against the actual quantity of 11,290,900 tons crushed in 1940-41. The percentage recoveries of sugar and molasses are estimated to be 9.7 and 3.5 respectively, as compared with the actual recoveries of 9.70 and 3.76 in the previous season.

## TRAINING IN SUGAR ENGINEERING

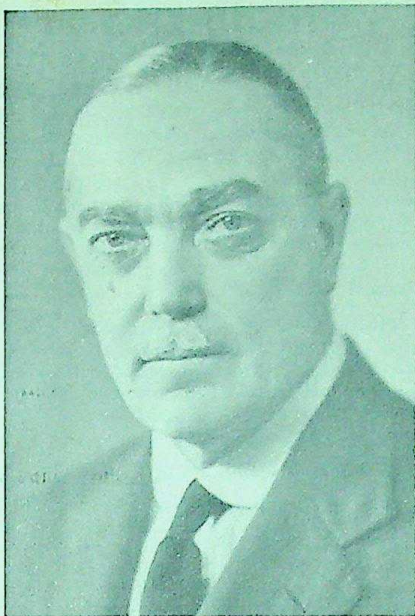
The new session for the Associateship course in Sugar Engineering at the Imperial Institute of Sugar Technology at Cawnpore opens on August 7, 1942. The course comprises 18 months' training at the Institute and one year's practical experience in a sugar factory. Proportionate exemption from factory experience is granted to those who worked in sugar factories prior to joining the course.

The Institute grants a scholarship of Rs. 25 a month for the Associateship course to deserving candidates on the recommendation of the Selection Committee before whom candidates must appear for an interview.

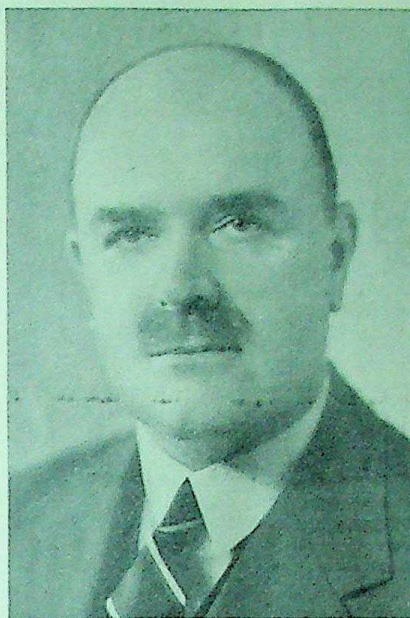
There is also a shorter course of one year's training and one year's practical experience in a sugar factory for Sugar Engineering Certificate.



# COMMUNICATIONS



MR. A. DUNCAN, PRESIDENT OF INDIAN RAILWAY CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION, 1941-42



MR. V. L. DEAN, GENERAL SECRETARY AND DIRECTOR OF WAGON INTERCHANGE, I.R.C.A.

## HOW TO LESSEN STRAIN ON DELHI 'PHONE SYSTEM

**T**he large expansion of the Services and Government departments due to the war has thrown a severe strain on the Delhi automatic telephone system, which is increased by the difficulties in obtaining more equipment for the exchanges. During most hours of the day, there is an abnormally large number of telephone calls far more than under peacetime conditions.

Telephone subscribers can materially assist in the working of the system and at the same time save themselves time and trouble by the way they use their telephones. Some of the methods by which avoidable strain on the Exchange can be prevented are indicated below :—

Getting a 'wrong number' only adds unnecessarily to the 'unproductive' load on the exchange, and due care in dialling will avoid much of this trouble. When removing the receiver from the cradle or hook, don't tap the latter to see if the telephone is working—this is by far the most frequent cause of getting wrong numbers. The 'burr' tone you hear immediately on removing the receiver shows that the telephone is working all right. Then, when dialling the number you want, listen after dialling the initial digit and if you then hear the 'engaged' signal do not continue dialling, as the signal indicates that the exchange is dealing with all the calls it can at the moment and yours will not get through. Replace your receiver and try again after a couple of minutes—not immediately as that will only produce the same result.

Pause a little between dialling each digit of the number you want. This gives the exchange mechanism time to find a free 'path' for you which may take a moment or so when the exchange is very busy.

If after dialling the last digit you hear the 'engaged' signal, do not keep on dialling the number you want every ten seconds: you will only get the 'engaged' signal each time and stop someone else establishing a call. It is far better to wait for five minutes to give the person you are calling a reasonable time to finish his conversation.

Finally, when you get your call make it last as short a time as possible. Someone else may be trying to call you and long conversations stop other people from making their calls. Paying attention to other subscribers' wants will keep a busy telephone exchange working efficiently.



## CLAIMS AGAINST BURMA RAILWAYS

With reference to the Press Communique dated New Delhi, April 22, 1942, regarding Burma Railways employees, it is notified for the information of all concerned that Burma Railway servants now in India should in future communicate with the Burma Government, Railway Department, Simla, instead of with the Secretary, Railway Board (Accounts), New Delhi.

All previous communications from Burma Railways employees, etc., already addressed to the Secretary, Railway Board (Accounts), in respect of their claims, etc., against the Burma Railways have been made over to and will be dealt with by the Government of Burma, Railway Department, Simla.

## 'TRAVEL LIGHT' APPEAL TO RAILWAY PASSENGERS

**W**ith a view to reducing the inconvenience now experienced by Railway passengers by the inconsiderate practice of cluttering up compartments with unnecessary luggage, it is understood that Railways will shortly enforce the rule that only luggage which can be conveniently stowed under the seat occupied by a passenger may be carried in a compartment.

Now that the defence needs of India require that the number of passenger trains should be cut down to a minimum, the amount of luggage carried in com-

partments naturally affects the comfort of passengers. "If you must travel, travel light," is, therefore, the latest appeal which Railways are making to passengers, in their drive against overcrowding in compartments.

There has been a large increase in parcels traffic on Railways and accommodation available in luggage vans is limited. The number of luggage and brake vans cannot be increased except at the expense of passenger carrying stock. It is, therefore, necessary for every one who has to travel to "travel light."

## PERMITS FOR RADIO SETS IN VEHICLES

**T**he Government of India have had under consideration the question of securing further control over wireless transmitting apparatus and have issued an order under the Defence of India Rules, namely, the Wireless Telegraphy Apparatus (Vehicles) Order, 1942, which came into force on July 1, 1942.

Under this Order no person shall, except under the authority of a permit granted by the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs, in this behalf, have in his possession or under his control any wireless receiving apparatus installed in any vehicle. It has been found necessary to control this apparatus as it can, if converted, be used for transmission purposes over short distances. Applications for permits under the Order should be made to the Electrical Engineer-in-Chief, Posts and Telegraphs Department, Jubbulpore, through the District Superintendent or the Commissioner of Police, within whose jurisdiction the applicant is residing.

### The Application

The application should contain full particulars of the apparatus concerned, a description and the registered number, if

any, of the vehicle in which it is installed, and the purpose for which the apparatus is required. For the purposes of the Order any wireless receiving apparatus is to be deemed to be installed in a vehicle if it is in the vehicle in circumstances in which it can be used or readily adapted for use.

The Order does not apply in relation to any apparatus in the possession of, or under the control of, the Defence Department of the Government of India.



## POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNTS OF EVACUEES

Some evacuees from Burma, Malaya and Singapore, it is learnt, had presented their Post Office savings bank pass-books at the post offices concerned for the transfer of their accounts to India. These pass-books have been left with those offices, though receipts have been obtained in lieu. As there is no possibility now of getting them, these receipts will be treated as pass-books and withdrawals permitted, in accordance with instructions already issued.



Write the message very plainly below this line.

Sender's Address: India Office,  
London.

Date: 20th May 1942.

I take the opportunity of the first airgraph service to India to send you and Lady Lilithgow my best greetings and good wishes for the months ahead. The new service will be a comfort to all those serving overseas, whether in His Majesty's Forces or in civilian life, as well as a practical boon to the business world, both British and Indian, in both countries, and thus a useful contribution to the war effort. At a time like this, with the enemy at India's gates, every link that helps to bring us all closer together is of inestimable value.

*Amery*

This space should not be used.

THE FIRST AIRGRAPH LETTER FROM ENGLAND TO INDIA WAS FROM MR. AMERY TO THE VICEROY

## MR. AMERY'S AIRGRAPH

"At a time like this, with the enemy at India's gates, every link that helps to bring us all closer together is of inestimable value." Thus states Mr. L. S. Amery, Secretary of State for India, in his first airgraph letter to His Excellency the Viceroy.

This letter came by the first outward airgraph service from the United Kingdom to India and was delivered at New Delhi on June 14. This consignment left England on May 21 and reached Karachi on June 11, thus occupying about three weeks in transit including the time taken by Cairo for enlargement.

Speaking of the utility of the airgraph service, Mr. Amery says:

"The New Service will be a comfort to all those serving overseas, whether in His Majesty's forces or in civilian life, as well as a practical boon to the business world, both British and Indian, in both countries, and thus a useful contribution to the war effort."

The airgraph service shows progressive growth in the number of letters carried.

The first inward consignment from England, which arrived in Karachi on June 11, 1942, contained 12,400 letters. The second arrived on the 13th with 23,000 letters and the third on the 14th with 38,500 letters. These numbers include both civilian and troops airgraph letters.

The outward service from India to the United Kingdom, which has been working for some time now, carries at present on an average about 49,000 letters per despatch. This compares with 1,500 letters carried in the first consignment.

The average time now taken for airgraphs to reach the United Kingdom is 18 days.

### NEW REGISTRATION ENVELOPE

A new issue of King George VI five-anna small registration envelope was printed and sold to the public at certain important post offices on and from July 1, 1942, and at other offices from a later date. The new envelope bears the value of 4½ annas and is sold to the public at five annas (inclusive of the manufacturing cost).

## COMMUNICATIONS

### LETTERS TO WAR PRISONERS

Next of kin of service personnel and civilians who have been reported missing in operations in Hongkong, Malaya and Burma, are informed that it is now possible to write to those who are prisoners of war in Japanese hands. Lists of prisoners of war have not yet been received from the Japanese Government, but until further notice letters and postcards should be addressed as follows:—

**Military.**—Personal Number, (other ranks only), Rank, Initials, Name (in block letters), Regiment, Locality where last serving or last heard of, followed by, British Prisoner of War, C/o. Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Tokyo.

**Civilians.**—Initials, and surname (in block letters), last known address, followed by, British Prisoner of War, C/o. Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Tokyo.

Envelopes should bear the inscription, Prisoner of War Post, and no stamps need be affixed. In view of the difficulty the Japanese may have in censoring letters it is recommended that both letters and postcards should be brief and clear. No parcels can be accepted at present.

### 50-YEAR-OLD SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNT

A claimant in Nadiad (Bombay Presidency) has successfully claimed from the Indian Post Office monies lying in the Savings Bank accounts of his great-grandfather, grandfather and father.

Two of these accounts remained unoperated since 1886 and the third since 1887. Thus they have found a successful claimant after a lapse of more than half a century!

The "windfall" to the claimant from the three accounts aggregates Rs. 2,262, plus about double this amount as interest, which is payable for 55 years in the case of the first two accounts and for 15 years in the case of the third.

The great-grandfather is reported to have died in 1907, the grandfather in 1919 and the father in 1939.

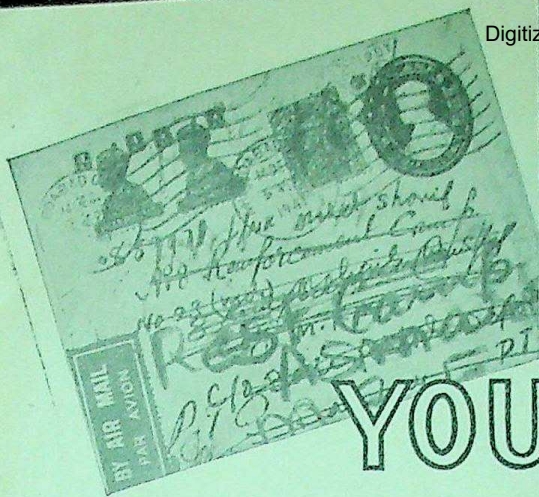
The claimant states that he accidentally found the pass-books recently among the old documents of his house. Immediately, the books were produced before the Nadiad Post Office.

Explaining the circumstances under which the pass-books remained unnoticed for such a very long time, extending to three generations, he says:—

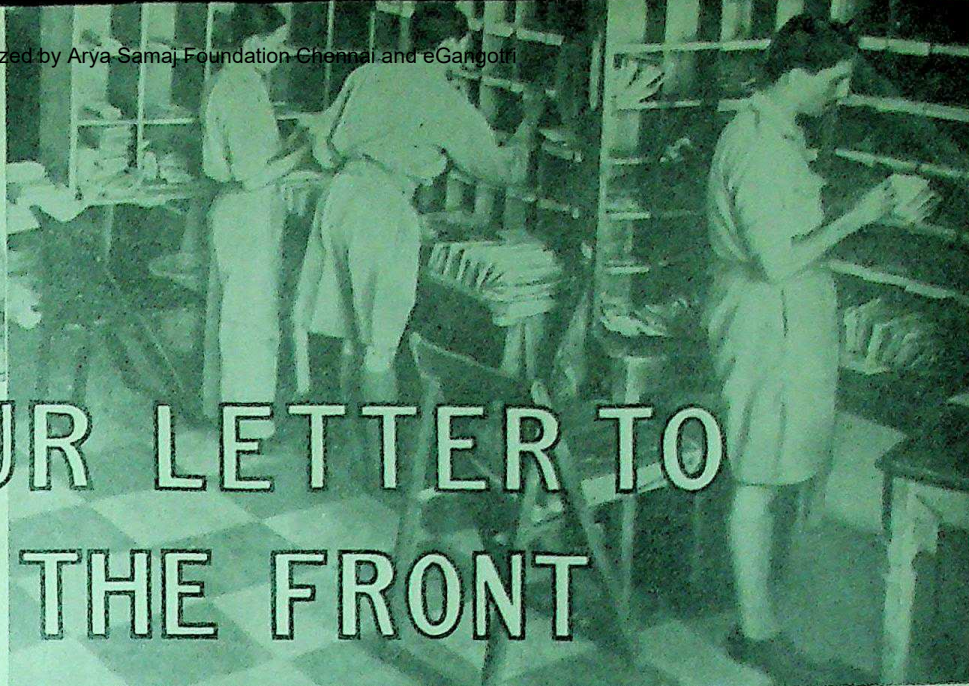
"My grandfather was serving as a Judge in the Judicial Department of the Cutch State and he died at Bhuj in the Cutch State while in service. When his father (i.e., my great-grandfather) died, he was in service. My father was also staying outside Nadiad when my great-grandfather died. And thus it appears that, on account of the above circumstances, the pass-books escaped the notice of all the three."

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1947





# YOUR LETTER TO THE FRONT



**M**any of us have perhaps never realised that there is a vast Army Postal Organisation behind the front line. Most of us might not have even heard of a field post office. But there it is—the nearest postal unit to the men who are doing the fighting. When things are quiet, in almost any Indian encampment you may look for a proud little red and white flag fluttering in the breeze, in front of a hut or tiny tent where every kind of field postal business is transacted—from the sale of stamps to the issue of a money order.

## The Base Post Office

The base post office is a big concern and the officer in charge of it is probably a Captain or a Major. With perhaps hundred or more men under him he deals with all ordinary postal business and when its equipment is complete, the building which he occupies will have all the familiar appearance of a civil post office. But his chief anxiety is to sort and distribute mails intended for the men scattered over operational areas, so that they may receive their heartening news from home as speedily as they can.

Here also the Censor Staff does its work generally in the same building as the post office.

At the base, orderlies from units who are stationed close by come to collect the correspondence for their units and from it bags and articles sorted according to Divisions and Brigades up in the front line are sent by train or lorry, as the case may be.

Mechanical transport carries mails from the railhead to the supply dump; thence divisional and brigade supply columns convey their respective bags in their transport to the field post offices at refilling points. When things are quiet, postal orderlies come daily with the regimental ration truck to draw mails, if they have arrived, and to transact postal business with the field post office.

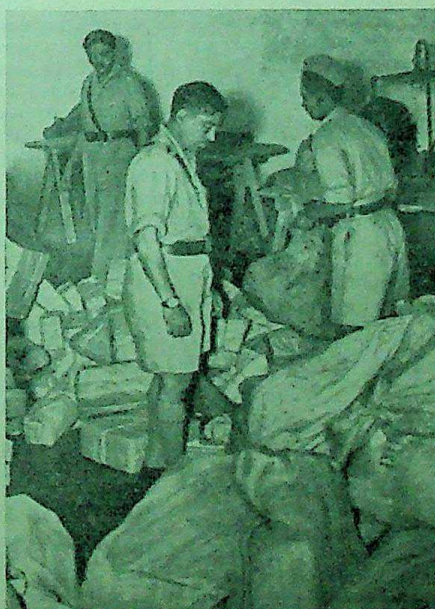
Mr. W. H. Shoobert, Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs, paid a visit to the base and field post offices in the Middle East some time ago.

## MAIL COMMUNICATION TO THE FAR EAST

With immediate effect, mail communication with New Guinea Mandated Territory, Solomon Islands, Gilbert and Ellis Islands and Marshall Islands (Nauru) has been temporarily suspended. No postal article or money order for these places will be accepted by Indian post offices until further notice.



BRISK BUSINESS IS GOING ON AT THE POST OFFICE COUNTERS

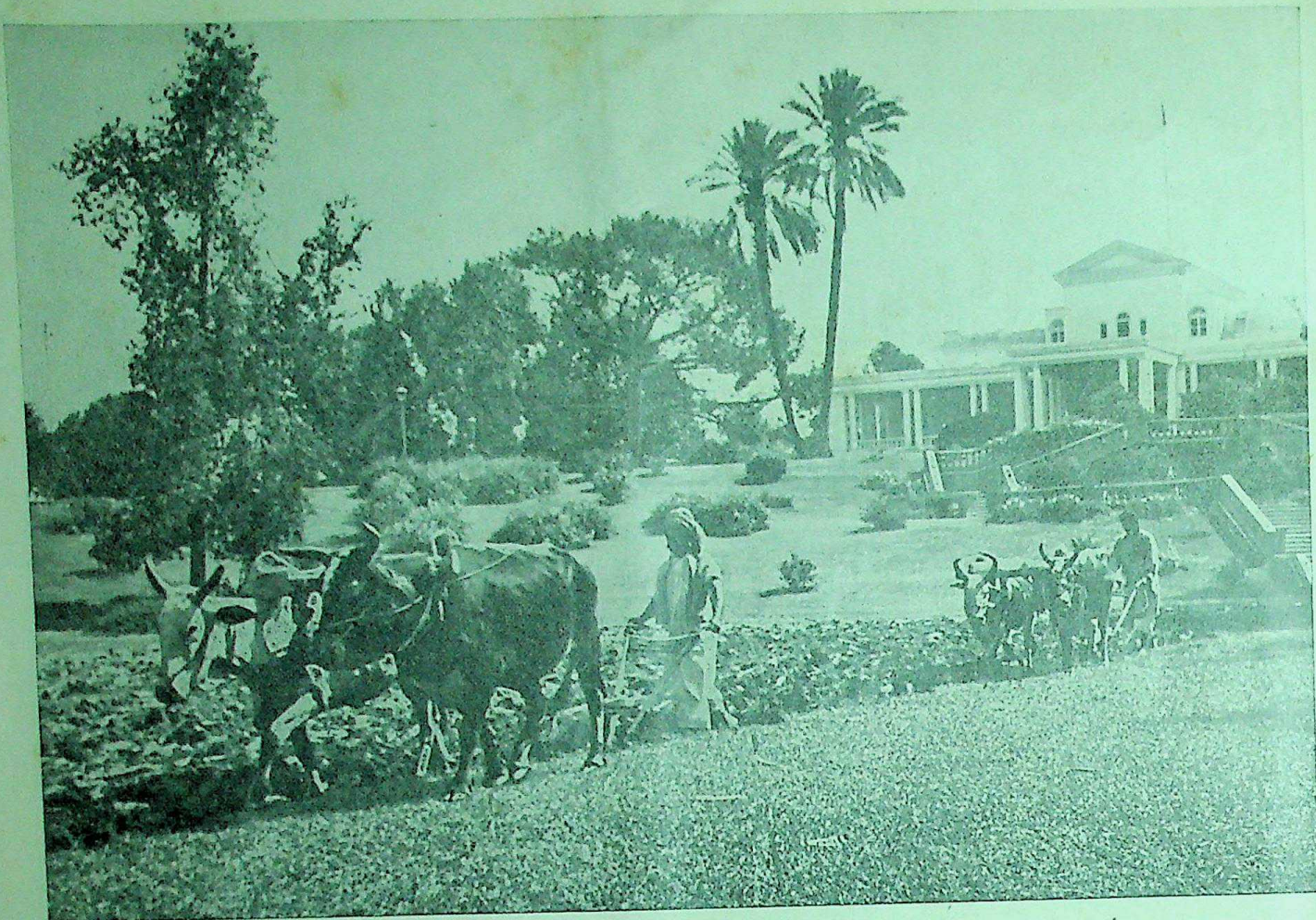


THESE PARCELS ARE FROM INDIA



MAIL VANS AT BASE POST OFFICE





The Governor of the North-West Frontier Province gives a lead to the food production drive by having the lawns in front of Government House, Peshawar, ploughed up to grow food crops

## “GROW MORE FOOD” CAMPAIGN

“In spite of extraordinary demands, provided we can count on good monsoons and provided the food production drive is properly pursued by the Provinces and the States, we can confidently expect that in India our food position as a whole will remain fundamentally sound,” said the Hon’ble Mr. N. R. Sarker, Member for Education, Health and Lands, Government of India, in a broadcast from All-India Radio, Delhi, on June 22, 1942.

He said: There may be shortages of particular crops or temporary shortages in particular regions due to transport difficulties, but—let me repeat this—in India as a whole there will be no shortage of food. If there is a shortage in, say, rice, people may have to supplement their diet of rice with a little of other foodstuffs like jowar-bajra, fruits and vegetables.

### Vast Agricultural Resources

Some of you who are listening to me may have formed the impression that India is faced with an acute shortage of food, that conditions akin to famine are apprehended. Such an impression is wholly wrong. It is common knowledge that our country is endowed with vast,—I would say almost limitless, agricultural resources

and that, generally speaking, we are able to produce all the main foods we require.

It is true that for many years now our own output of foodstuffs has been supplemented by the import of rice from Burma at an average of about 14 lakh tons per year. That may sound rather a formidable figure but in fact it represents less than three per cent of our annual food production. In respect of wheat, we normally produce enough for our requirements and in years of good harvest we had indeed a small exportable surplus. For such other food grains as jowar-bajra, gram, pulses, millets, etc., we could practically meet all our demands.

With the cessation of rice imports from Burma, after that country was overrun by the enemy, and with increasing demands for our wheat, it became clear, earlier in the year, that the total supply of the normal staple foodstuffs of our people might not be quite sufficient to meet our domestic needs. On the top of this, we have to meet the demands of our steadily growing Defence Forces. At the same time as the war effort gathers momentum, more and more people are being brought into employment. This means that more wages are being paid out. This again must lead to an increasing demand for our available foodstuffs. Over

and above all these, we have undertaken to help our neighbour Ceylon whose difficulties are of much the same kind as our own and which has a considerable Indian population.

### Comparative Position

In respect of our food supply, we are, indeed, in a much better position than Western countries such as England or Germany. Nature is so bountiful in this country that, with a little more exertion and organisation, we can meet any threatened shortage. In England most of the important items of food come largely from outside. She has to import wheat from Canada, Australia and the Argentine; meat from the Argentine, Australia and New Zealand; fish from Norway and Denmark; butter and cheese from New Zealand and Australia; eggs from Denmark and the Netherlands; and so on. She produces only a small fraction of these at home and, with her large urban population, she cannot hope to be self-sufficient in respect of her requirements of food notwithstanding all her efforts. When the imports of all these items of food were restricted or cut off by the exigencies of the war, she was forced to make radical changes in her dietary habits. Germany is in some ways in a better position in respect of her food as she normally produces a greater proportion of her needs and is not dependent on seaborne trade for the balance; but even as a war measure, in her endeavour to attain self-sufficiency, she has had to make drastic changes in her diet and I very much doubt if her civil population is as well fed now as that of the United Kingdom.



# AGRICULTURE

In India, fortunately, we produce most of what we eat in peace time and we can produce much more to meet the present abnormal war demand if only we are ready to exert ourselves and take advantage of the bounties of Nature. In this sense the "Grow More Food" campaign has for India an entirely different significance from what it has for countries of Europe.

Even from the purely agricultural point of view, the campaign in India does not present the problems or complications comparable to those in England. In Great Britain an expanded cultivation of food grains would force an encroachment on grass lands and consequently a curtailment of fodder and milk supply. There is also the risk of a loss on capital schemes of land improvement in respect of those areas where cultivation cannot be maintained in peace time against the competition of cheaper imported food. None of these problems and complications faces us in India. The fulfilment of the programme which our campaign has in view will, indeed, facilitate the post-war reconstruction of Indian agriculture instead of being a hindrance to it. We have, thus, no reason to be alarmed by the food situation with which we are confronted today.

## People's Duty

The Provinces and the States are doing their best to increase the production of food grains. But in our country, agriculture is so dependent on monsoon, and distribution is so much at the mercy, now-a-days, of transport facilities, that it would be wise to prepare ourselves for a possible shortage in some locality—we cannot say where it might be. In this respect we have a special advantage in that we can supplement our food supply with fruits and vegetables which can be grown by almost every householder.

Outside the big cities even the poorest sections of the people in this country have some lands attached to their homesteads where they can grow either some quick-bearing fruit trees or vegetables for their

own consumption. This is, indeed, a part which every citizen, poor or rich, can play in supplementing the efforts of our peasants and cultivators to maintain an increasing supply of foodstuffs to meet the ever-increasing demand for them. Apart from the contribution in terms of increase in output, if wealthy men will join the mass cultivators in helping the national effort to augment food supplies, it will have a great psychological effect and give a tremendous impetus to the movement. It will demonstrate to the people in a practical manner that the problem concerns us all and that each has been doing his part to meet a common peril.

I should like to commend to you in this connection the example of His Highness the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, who has decided, as a gesture, to grow jowar-bajra between the rose-beds in the gardens of his palace. The Governor of Bombay has also, I understand, been interested in the cultivation of vegetables in the garden of Government House. I appeal to all sections of our people—officials and non-officials, rich and poor—to do all they can to give an impetus to this aspect of the campaign by setting an inspiring example to the masses. I hope they will realise that a larger consumption of vegetables and fruits will not only relieve the present food situation, but also result in a permanent gain; for if this develops into an abiding habit, it will give a more healthy and balanced diet to our people at practically no cost.

## No Wastage

I would also appeal to you to avoid all forms of waste at the present moment. I need hardly stress that times of national emergency such as the one we have been passing through do not permit any kind of waste in our use of food. The wastes are apt to be ignored as too small in individual instances but for the entire community these may very well run into colossal amounts. To indulge in such wastes in times like the present emergency is an anti-social conduct which must be

checked by an effective social conscience. I trust my appeal in this respect will not go in vain.

I should like to say here that it is a matter of great gratification to the Government of India and to me personally that the "Grow More Food" drive which was inaugurated by us early in April this year has met with such a splendid response from various Provincial and State Governments. They have initiated energetic measures to persuade the cultivators to grow more food and fodder crops. They have been taking effective steps for the distribution of seeds and manures and, in some instances, for the improvement of water supply, and for the restriction of the cultivation of unwanted crops in order that lands so released may be utilised for the production of food grains. I am quite confident that with their cordial and enthusiastic pursuit of the drive and the co-operation of the public, we shall not find it difficult to tackle the problem of our food supply.

## SCIENTIFIC PROCESSING OF DRIED FRUITS

A scheme for the scientific processing of dried fruits on a large scale has been introduced by the North-West Frontier Province Government following on the Supply Department's decision to obtain all its requirements of dried fruits from the former. The Government of India have agreed to contribute half the capital cost of installing and erecting a plant, subject to a maximum of Rs. 1½ lakhs.

The plant, which is expected to turn out 4,000 tons of dried fruits per year, will include several up-to-date forced draft tunnel dehydrators and sulphur houses and a processing and packing plant, besides accommodation and equipment for receiving, preparing and storing the fruits.

## Main Suppliers

The North-West Frontier Province and, to a lesser extent, Baluchistan are the main suppliers of dried fruits required by the Defence Services. In both cases, however, the supplies are largely derived from Afghanistan via tribal territory. Hitherto, the fruits have been mostly sun-dried under indigenous conditions, with the result that rejection on account of dirt and insect infection have been considerable. During recent months, some processing has been undertaken by the N.W. F. P. Government on an existing plant, but the output has been limited owing to insufficient capacity. The present scheme, it is expected, will soon ensure an adequate supply of dried fruits, hygienically processed and packed.

## SOIL INVESTIGATION IN SIND

An investigation scheme to determine the soil and sub-soil conditions in the Lloyd Barrage Zone has been approved by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

Sixteen stations, scattered throughout Sind, have been established for the purpose and already over 3,000 soil samples have been examined in regard to their texture, salt content, base exchange capacity and other physico-chemical properties.

The scheme is for 3 years and a detailed report will be published after fully analysing the data.

## GOVERNMENT'S ASSURANCE TO CULTIVATORS

In connection with the food production drive inaugurated by the Government of India, the question has been raised whether the position of the cultivator will not be seriously affected if a nationwide effort towards increased food production leads to such an augmentation of output as to affect the saleability of the crops. It has been suggested that in the event of a sudden termination of hostilities, the demand for foodstuffs may fall off, leading to a deterioration in prices.

The Government of India regard the possibility of any such developments as remote. They would, therefore, ask the cultivators to be on their guard against any exaggeration of these fears and to go ahead with their plans for increased food production to meet the proved need of the hour. With the growing demand for foodstuffs on all sides, there is little chance of any serious fall in prices in the immediate future.

Even after the cessation of hostilities, the demand for foodstuffs from countries now devastated by war, is likely to increase rather than decrease. India herself with her growing population needs more food than she grows at present.

It is, however, likely that genuine apprehensions may be felt about the transport situation and certain temporary difficulties in the marketing of crops on that account, and it was to counter such apprehensions that it was recommended at the Food Production Conference held in New Delhi on April 6, 1942, that "the Government of India should undertake, should such a contingency threaten, to buy such quantities of foodstuffs in the open market as would prevent any serious deterioration in the level of prices."

The Government of India have accepted the principle of this recommendation, and the details of a scheme for giving effect to it are now being worked out in consultation with the interests concerned. Meanwhile, the Government of India desire to convey this assurance to the cultivators that, should any developments take place which affect the saleability of the food crops, they will buy such quantities of foodstuffs in the open market, whether in British India or in the Indian States, as are calculated to prevent a serious fall in the prices. The Government of India are anxious to see that those who respond to their appeal for increased food production in this emergency do not suffer thereby.



# EDUCATION—HEALTH—LANDS

## Preservation Of Wood

How can wood be protected against destruction by fungi, termites, borers and marine organisms? This is answered in a bulletin on wood preservation published by the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun.

The losses due to these agencies, according to the bulletin, are considerable, and the economic importance of wood preservation is obvious. Modern research has shown that wood when used under proper conditions is often superior to steel and other structural materials. Besides its strength properties, its low thermal conductivity, high electrical resistance, sound deadening properties, ease of working, easy availability and low cost have contributed to its use in preference to other materials.

If wood, before use, is chemically treated to protect it from destructive agencies, its life is prolonged and serviceability improved. The bulletin describes how it can be protected by preservative oils, water soluble preservatives and toxic chemicals dissolved in volatile solvents. After discussing the preparation of wood for treatment, it also gives the different processes of treatment, its handling subsequent to treatment and the cost of treatment, which is illustrated by a tabular statement.



## Treatment Of Timber

To meet war demands, large quantities of perishable timbers are being used in this country or are being exported to various places outside. The process generally adopted for giving some protection to this timber is dipping it in a cold mixture of creosote and fuel oil in a cement tank.

In response to several inquiries for a simple type of tank which could be heated, the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, has published a Bulletin describing how a metal tank can be made from old iron drums and used for the treatment of timber by the dipping, steeping or open tank process. The main advantages of this type of tank are that it is easy to make, cheap and portable.

Three designs of cement or brick tanks in which the preservative can be indirectly heated have also been tried at the Institute. One method of heating is by means of external coils of piping round which a fire is lit. This type of heater is simple to construct and is reported to be efficient in use.



## Locust Menace

India has again been invaded this year by locust swarms from the West.

Recently, swarms have been observed at Panjgur and Turbat in Baluchistan and in north Sind. A number of specimens of the gregarious phase have been observed in several Rajputana States, particularly Bikaner. A few specimens have even reached Delhi.

Last year the first invasion by the foreign swarms occurred about the end of June; this year they have come about three weeks earlier. From information received it would appear that during the past spring and early summer locusts bred in large numbers in Palestine, parts of Arabia, Persia, Port Sudan, etc. It is probable, therefore, that India will have shortly a number of swarms.

Provinces and States in north-west India are advised to put their anti-locust organisations in active working order to destroy the swarms as they enter their territories. Failing this, with the outbreak of monsoon, egg-laying will occur, giving rise to hoppers and fresh swarms.

Locust population in Baluchistan continued to be low during the first fortnight of May, and there was scattered breeding in the Gwadur-Jiwani, Parom (Panjgur) and Kachhi areas. Panjgur received good rainfall, which is likely to help heavier breeding.

An important development during the fortnight was that some pink locust specimens were traceable on the Mekran coast (Pasni) indicating that the eastward migration of locusts had started, as the specimens were evidently of foreign origin, presumably Arabian (Oman) or Iranian.

During the second fortnight of April, the locust situation continued to be quiet in Rajputana and the adjacent areas in North-West India. In the former region, solitary hoppers of various stages as well as new generation adults were traceable at the corresponding time last year. Reports received from Iran indicate that extensive areas were under oviposition, and control measures against hoppers in certain localities were adopted.



## Stone Age Specimens

An expedition of the Archaeological Department, Government of India, working in the Sabarmati Valley in Baroda State, has come across specimens of early stone age, which roughly indicate their age as 50,000 years. A systematic study of these specimens may reveal the story of India's earliest inhabitants and their activities.

These specimens, which are of quartzite implements, mostly found embedded in the pebble conglomerate formation, have been discovered in hundreds in the river-bed in the valley after an examination for a length of nearly 25 miles. The age of these deposits is indicated by the fact that nearly 80 feet of alluvial deposits and blown loess overlie the original river-bed forming the habitat of the early stone age man.

Besides these early stone age finds, a number of microlithe or tiny stone implements left by the early man have been recovered from the top strata of the loess hills. It is now proposed to extend the work to the valley of the lower Narmada and its tributaries where Bruce Foote, the pioneer Geologist, recovered other stone age finds.



## Land Revenue Records

The index to the Land Revenue records in the custody of the Imperial Record Department has been completed with the publication of the second part of "Index to the Land Revenue Records," covering the period 1838-1859. The first part published in 1940 covered the period 1830-1837.

The records now indexed consist of 5,200 documents dealing with a variety of subjects. Endeavour has been made in this index to give an idea of the scope and nature of the documents. A glossary of revenue and other oriental terms found in the documents has been added to the Index.

The scheme was started on the recommendation of the Indian Historical Records Commission that the records in the custody of the Imperial Record Department should be carefully classified, according to the relative importance of their subject-matter. The Government of India decided to have the more important records properly indexed.



## Good Harvest

To ensure a good harvest even during famine years, a scheme for the construction of dams or Tal works (earth embankments with masonry weirs), with provision to drain off the surplus water through cross valleys or nallas, has been in hand in the Deccan Districts of Bombay.

In several parts of the districts, which are subject to periodic famines, much of the rain water obtained from the heavy and sharp anti-monsoon showers is lost as a result of the undulating and slopy nature of the land. Along with the water run off, much of the fine particles of soil known as the "blood of the soil" is lost every year, thus impoverishing the agricultural lands and rendering them unfit for cultivation or making them barren in some cases.

The construction of low dams has proved to be an effective and successful control measure. It reclaims land in the nalla beds and catches and spreads the rain water and silt over considerable areas by way of flooding. A good harvest is thus ensured even during famine years.



## Sulphur Deposits

Deposits of crude sulphur discovered in Baluchistan are now being worked by Government. The crude sulphur is carried to the nearest railhead for subsequent transport to other parts of India.

In view of the extreme difficulty now being experienced in obtaining sulphur from America and of the high prices charged, it is felt that consumers would be well advised to investigate the possibility of using crude Baluchistan Sulphur.

An organisation for the sale and distribution of the ore is being set up under the supervision of the Directorate General of Supply, Chemicals Directorate, New Delhi, to whom all inquiries and applications for the ore are to be made.

Every endeavour will be made to supply ore containing not less than 50 per cent of sulphur. The impurities which occur with the sulphur are not of a harmful nature and consist mainly of silicious material and calcium sulphate. Free sulphuric acid occurs to the extent of about one per cent. Arsenic is present in traces, generally determined as less than five parts per million. The crude sulphur is free from selenium and bituminous matter.

It is considered that this sulphur can be utilised in sulphuric acid plants using the chamber process and also in sugar refineries provided certain modifications are carried out to existing burners. Difficulties may arise over the high proportion of impurities present, but such difficulties are likely to be of a comparatively minor character.

For certain purposes, it is recognised that refined sulphur is essential, and the Department of Supply is pursuing the question of erecting a refinery as soon as possible, but some months must necessarily elapse before the completion of such a plant.



# MILITARY AND POLICE PATROLS ROUND UP HURS IN SIND

The proclamation on June 1, of martial law over an area in Sind did not have any immediate reaction and was in fact taken very quietly in the districts concerned. It had, however, the natural effect of causing the immediate dispersion of some of the larger gangs of Hurs who had, by reason of their aggressive behaviour and terrorisation of the people, been able in some places to operate almost with impunity. This dispersion has not prevented Hurs from continuing to perpetrate outrages against the public. Several further outrages have already been reported.

There are, however, some indications that the strong action now being taken is already tending to stiffen civilian morale. This is suggested by the incident reported from the Perumel Taluka near Sawghar. An attack by 20 Hurs was successfully repulsed by the villagers themselves, four Hurs being killed and two guns and camels captured. All the property seized by the dacoits is reported to have been recovered: one chowkidar lost his life in the action.

So far 14 men have been arrested in Hyderabad, Sind, and 9 dacoits have been apprehended in the Doro canal area of Mirpurkhas district. These dacoits were armed with hatchets, and a horse and a camel were captured with them. A member of one of the most prominent gangs has already been caught near Singhoro and 41 Hurs seized in Shahdadpur area; 21 suspected persons have been taken into custody in the Rohri area. A patrol pursuing another gang succeeded in capturing 12 more dacoits. Operations are continuing. Armed protection has been provided for stations and running trains.

## Military Patrols

How a military patrol in pursuit of a gang of dacoits covered 122 miles in 48 hours, of which nearly 100 miles was performed on camel and foot, is related in reports from the Sind Martial Law area.

This patrol had received information that a gang was operating south-east of Sukkur and immediately set off in pursuit.

Trackers assisted the patrol and, at one stage, after travelling for about three hours, discovered that the trail had bifurcated which necessitated the patrol being split.

At last a part of the gang was traced to a small village. The force deployed and carried out a rapid search but the quarry had flown.

The track was then followed for a further ten miles and the gang overtaken.

The other section of the patrol was equally successful, and altogether 14 men and various members of their families were captured. Two guns were confiscated while amongst the baggage was discovered a silver tumbler inscribed as being presented by the Pir Pagaro.

A large military detachment has commenced a drive west of Shahdadpur towards Singh.

This widespread activity of military and police patrols has done much to spread a feeling of confidence throughout villages in the area, while the capture of the prominent Hur leader, Ahmed, a short time ago, has lessened considerably the number of organised dacoities.

During the week ending with June 23, 1942, seven dacoities occurred and two canals have been breached.

Hurs numbering 151 have been detained and are under examination. One Hur was shot when resisting arrest.

Night running on the Karachi-Lahore main line has been resumed.

Mischievous elements in one village are spreading rumours to the effect that troops search houses, rape women and loot. The headman has been ordered to trace the source of these stories and authorised to carry out arrests. The absurdity of such stories is instanced by the following extract from the *Mirpurkhas Gazette* :—

"We take pleasure in writing that the conduct of Military in Mirpurkhas and suburbs has remained so far satisfactory. No complaint of any sort has been heard of anywhere. Every merchant, hotel-keeper or fruit-vendor receives his proper dues. We express our gratefulness for this to the Military Officer-in-Charge on behalf of the public and hope that he will maintain discipline so that no occasion should arise for any complaint."

## NOTORIOUS HUR ARRESTED

Ahmed, son of Hussain Mhar Dars, who was wanted in connection with many offences, including the murder of Pir Fatehalishah in 1936, has been arrested by a military patrol along with two of his sub-lieutenants and ten other Hurs. Another leader, Yusaf, who escaped, is being pursued. Ahmed was the most prominent Hur leader in the Sukkur area.

The Sukkur area has been the scene of much military and police activity. While a combined military and police sweep through the hills to the south-east of Sukkur searched five villages and raided another, resulting in 20 arrests, a military detachment was surprising 30 to 40 men attempting to erect an obstacle on the road between

Tando Adan and Saidabad about 160 miles from Sukkur. Another detachment patrolling the area Matari arrested eight men who have been sent to Hyderabad Jail. A patrol at Sakrand has arrested 28 Hurs while a raid carried out in this area yielded a further ten prisoners. A particularly fruitful search was made of villages in the Gandoo Deh area and among articles confiscated have been a rifle, a cartridge making machine and a number of cartridges. Further bad characters armed with hatchets have been apprehended. In some cases bribes of Rs. 60 per head were vainly offered to the police.

Consequent on the murder of a P.W.D. Sub-Divisional Officer by Hurs on June 4, punitive measures have been taken against villages in the Lotko area, known to have harboured accomplices. These villages are nine miles south of Sanghar which is 60 miles north-east of Hyderabad near the Nira Canal.

Reports of dacoities continue to come in. Some have been reported from Singhor and Khirpo respectively 60 miles north-east and east of Hyderabad; in connection with them 25 arrests have been made. Deh Roho has been raided by dacoits armed with guns, two people being murdered and two houses looted. As a result of these dacoities a considerable round-up has been carried out, and arrests include one party of 260 by the military and another 30 suspects apprehended in Shahpur, and Mirpur Mathelo. Two informers have been sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.

## SUMMARY TRIAL OF HURS

Summary justice has overtaken a number of Hurs involved in the attack on a village in the Perumel Taluka on June 3, 1942.

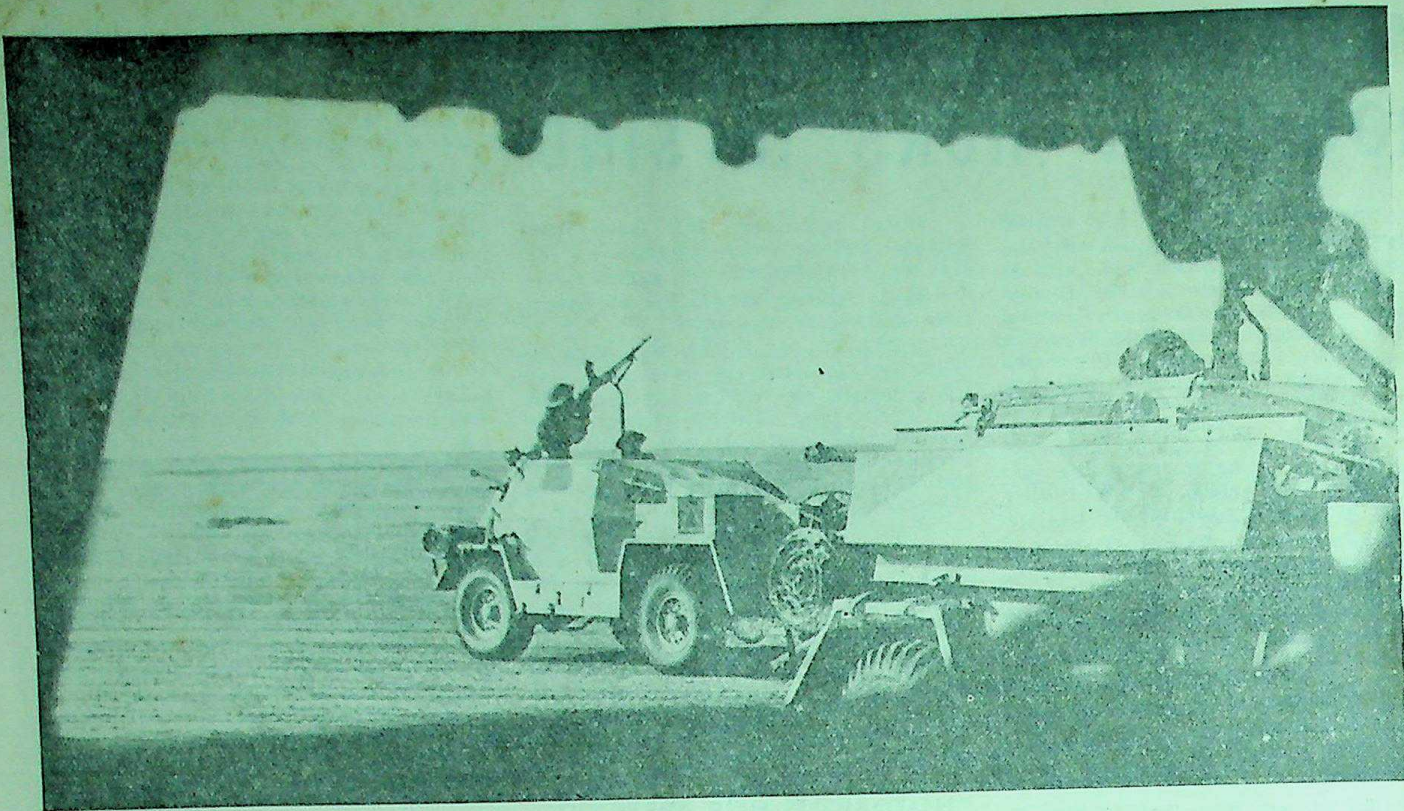
Nineteen of those involved in this dacoity were captured by a military patrol which pursued the gang. They were identified, tried by Special Tribunal and sentenced to death. The sentence was carried out on June 10.

Vigorous measures are being enforced against villagers known to have been involved in the murder, on June 4, of a P. W. D. official in the Lutko area.



WHAT PRICE GLORY





INDIAN PRINCES AND PEOPLE ARE DONATING FUNDS FOR PURCHASE OF ARMoured CARRIERS EQUIPPED WITH BREN-GUNS

## AIM TO PRESENT XMAS GIFTS TO EVERY SOLDIER

**A** gift at Christmas for each soldier from India serving overseas is the aim this year of the Amenities for Troops Committees.

Last year, the response of the people of India to suggestions that they should show, by means of donations, their appreciation of the gallantry and self-sacrifice of these soldiers was so generous that the majority of troops from India overseas received Christmas presents.

Experience shows that the following gifts are among the most suitable:—Masala, Churma, dried fruit, cigarettes, coloured handkerchiefs, sweets, torches, vests, writing materials, toothbrushes, razor blades, soap, shaving mirrors. In order to ensure that each soldier receives a gift of about the same value each present should cost not more than Rs. 1-8-0 to Rs. 2. Foodstuffs must be in sealed tins.

Purchasing, sorting, packing and transportation of the vast quantities of gifts is work which occupies several months and has already begun. Well-wishers are sending their donations to their nearest Provincial Amenities For Troops Fund Committees and it is suggested that others who wish to send presents should also act similarly to enable the amenities organisation to get them to the troops in time.

### PRINCES' CONTRIBUTIONS

The Indian Princes continue to pour money, men and material into the war effort. In regard to money, the non-recurring contributions offered up to the end of April, 1942, amounted approximately to Rs. 3,10,30,000/- and the recurring donations (annual figure) promised stood at about Rs. 36,64,000/-.



Colonel F. L. Brayne ("Socrates"), Inspector of Amenities for Indian Troops, talks to soldiers during a visit to the Middle East

### NAWAB OF AMB'S PARTY TO WOUNDED

The Nawab of Amb State, in the North-West Frontier Province, invited on May 27, 1942, nearly 1,000 guests to an evening party at Abbottabad to meet some 80 wounded officers and soldiers. H.E. the Governor of the N.-W. F. P., important civil and military officials and notables of the district attended the party.

A young officer thanked the Nawab for his hospitality. The Nawab called upon all people to show in a suitable manner their appreciation of the services rendered by these gallant countrymen of theirs who had fought on various fronts for their homeland.

This party was one of the many given in honour of wounded officers and soldiers since the arrival, as Deputy Commissioner of the Hazara District, of Major B. D. S. Bedi.

At the conclusion of the party, the Nawab presented to the Governor Rs. 1,000 and to Captain Sultan Haidar Zaman, the Chief of Ghakars, Rs. 500 for providing amenities for troops.

### ST. DUNSTAN'S SECTION

The 60th list of donations and remittances received up to May 31, 1942, brings the total of the St. Dunstan's Section of H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund to Rs. 7,61,714-8-1 plus £263-2-1.



# THE VICEROY'S WAR PURPOSES FUND

During the fortnight ended May 31, 1942, Chinese War Relief and Red Cross received in India Rs. 7,000 and Assam War Fund for Burma Refugees Rs. 50,000 from H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund.

Other payments of importance in India were: Rs. 28,600 for the Defence Services Estimates for I.A.F., Rs. 1,11,000 for Defence Services Estimates, and Rs. 16,100 for the Royal Indian Navy.

The Central Joint War Committee of the Indian Red Cross and St. John's Ambulance Association received Rs. 2,76,000.

Motor ambulances purchased in India during the period amounted to Rs. 1,55,000.

Total collections in the Fund, including interest realised on investments of cash balances, amounted to Rs. 6,86,61,000 up to May 31, 1942.

H. E. the Viceroy gratefully acknowledges this splendid voluntary effort.

Total payments from the Fund in India and overseas amounted to Rs. 5,92,47,127.

Contributions for the following objects would be particularly welcome:—Indian Red Cross, War Victims Fund for East Asia, Welfare of Indian merchant seamen, and Benevolent Funds of the fighting forces (Indian and British).

During the fortnight ended March 31, 1942, certain payments were made from the Fund for various objects in India. Rs. 3,20,600 were paid for the relief of the dependants of those who were killed and Rs. 15,000 for providing amenities to Indian seamen at Bombay and Calcutta while the Indian Soldiers Board received Rs. 93,000.

During the same period, the Polish Relief Committee, India, received Rs. 50,000, and Rs. 39,500 was paid to the War Victims Fund in East Asia.

## GRANTS FOR EX-SOLDIERS AND THEIR DEPENDANTS

Grants amounting to Rs. 5,440 were made to ex-soldiers and their dependants by the Indian Soldiers Board at the first half-yearly distribution of relief for 1942, from the Defence Forces Relief Fund. The total was divided among the various provinces and administrations as follows:—

Punjab Rs. 2,108; U.P. Rs. 1,044; N.-W.F.P. Rs. 978; Punjab States Rs. 268; Bengal Rs. 252; Madras Rs. 216; Hyderabad (Deccan) Rs. 180; Delhi Rs. 100; Central India Rs. 100; Bombay Rs. 72; Rajputana Rs. 72; and Mysore Rs. 50.

## GOVERNMENT TAKE OVER CANTEEN SYNDICATE

Government took over the business of the Canteen Contractors' Syndicate, Limited, suppliers to canteens, institutes, messes, and other organisations run for the benefit of the Forces in India on July 1. While the business is controlled by Government it is to be run under the name of "The Canteen Stores Department."

Government undertake to meet all liabilities of the Company and to discharge all contractual and other liabilities existing on the date of taking over, subject to the submission of statements by the Company. All members of the staff are taken over on the same terms as those on which they have been employed by the Company and are to be treated as being on loan to Government. Power of dismissal of employees remains with the present Managing Director. Provident fund contributions continue to be paid by Government at the same rates as hitherto paid by the Company.

Provision for taking over the business by Government during war or in an emergency is contained in the Articles of Association of the Canteen Contractors' Syndicate, Limited.

## WAR LOAN INVESTMENTS

The statement below shows the amounts subscribed by each of the 11 Provinces and by the Indian States and Centrally Administered areas, to the Indian Defence Loans, in March, 1942, together with progressive totals for each Province, etc.:—

STATISTICS OF DEFENCE LOANS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 1942 (IN THOUSANDS)

Area.	3% Defence Loans.	Interest Free Bonds.		Defence Savings Certificates.				Defence Savings Bank.		Grand Total.
	Total subscription till the date of closing of 3% Loan 1942-52 (2nd Defence Loans).	Subscription for March 1942 (Preliminary).	Progressive total to end of the month.	Sales during March 1942 (Preliminary).	Encashments during the month.	Net Sales for the month.	Progressive (Net) total to end of the month.	Deposits during March 1942 (Preliminary).	Progressive total to end of the month.	Total of columns (2), (4), (8) and (10).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Bengal..	40,74.14	2	38.75	4.40	5.42	—1.02	80.44	10	1.38	41,94.71
Bombay ..	37,55.66	1,06	1,22.01	3.55	3.64	—9	78.41	1	1.88	39,57.96
Punjab ..	5,10.84	32	14.57	1.86	1.03	83	53.55	27	2.10	5,81.06
U.P. ..	4,38.96	75	9.02	5.44	2.23	3.21	62.78	42	2.06	5,12.82
Madras ..	4,21.98	1	5.27	1.16	97	19	30.10	6	38	4,57.73
Sind ..	1,30.56	1	2.99	41	45	—4	13.58	+	53	1,47.66
Bihar ..	90.47	+	5.50	96	1.57	—61	31.79	1	40	1,28.16
Delhi ..	72.00	+	2.02	25	27	—2	7.00	+	22	81.24
C.P. & Berar ..	30.00	+	1.37	69	87	—18	19.88	+	26	51.51
N.-W. F. P. ..	23.74	+	1.28	31	5	26	5.82	+	18	31.02
Orissa ..	27.35	+	6	9	8	1	3.49	+	4	30.94
Baluchistan ..	17.04	+	54	9	6	3	3.17	—	+	20.75
Assam ..	11.03	+	20	26	18	8	7.01	1	23	18.47
Ajmer-Merwara ..	8.94	—	17	8	1	7	1.51	+	2	10.64
Coorg ..	2	—	—	+	+	+	14	—	+	16
Indian States and other Central Treasuries ..	2,57.99	66	66.91	1.07	1.55	—48	34.64	4	90	3,60.44
Total ..	98,70.72	2,83	2,70.66*	20.62	18.38	2.24	4,33.31*	92	10.58*	1,05,85.27*

† Subscription less than Rs 500.

\* Includes subsequent adjustments of previous preliminary figures, and takes into account an error in February figures which has since come to light.



# EVACUEE NOTICES

## EMPLOYMENT FOR INDIAN EVACUEES

Registration offices where refugees can register themselves for employment have been established in all Provinces where Indian evacuees from Burma and Malaya have arrived. Skilled and semi-skilled workers are directed by these offices to the National Service Labour Tribunals who find them employment in industry. The registration offices also keep in the closest possible touch with employers and attempt to place refugees in occupations fitted to their previous experience and training.

A few months ago when refugees began arriving in India in large numbers, the Labour Department of the Government of India addressed the Provincial Governments emphasising the desirability of finding employment for Indian evacuees, without prejudice to the interests of the permanent residents.

### Colonisation Schemes

It was suggested that in some Provinces it might be possible to institute land development or colonisation schemes. In others it might be possible to add to industrial development. Some of the refugees might be suitable for enrolment in the Civil Pioneer Force.

It is now gathered that 25 registration offices have been opened in Madras, an Evacuee Employment Bureau in the Central Provinces, a registration Bureau under the control of the Employment Adviser in Bengal and an Evacuees Bureau in the United Provinces. In the Punjab and the

North-West Frontier Province arrangements for the registration of evacuees have been made at the headquarters of the Districts. District committees have been formed in Bihar. In Sind the Commissioner of Labour has been entrusted with the arrangements. Registration offices have also been opened in the Centrally administered areas of Ajmer and Beawar.

### ACCOMMODATION FOR EVACUEES

Discussions were held in New Delhi on June 18, 1942, between representatives of the provinces of Bombay, Madras, Bengal and Assam and representatives of the Government of India. The subject discussed was co-ordination between provinces in regard to accommodation for evacuees with whom it is, or may become, necessary to deal. General agreement was reached on the problems considered.

It was made clear at the meeting that the present tendency is for those who have left such cities as Madras, Bombay and Calcutta to return to their normal employment there.

The following were present at the meeting:—

Government of India: Mr. A. W. Ibbotson (who presided), Mr. N. V. H. Symons, Mr. J. S. A. Selwyn, Mr. H. J. Frampton, Mr. G. S. Bozman, and Major W. Byrne.

Madras: Mr. S. V. Ramamurthy, Chief Secretary.

## BURMA EXAMINATIONS TO BE HELD IN INDIA

It is understood that among the evacuees from Burma now in India, there are a considerable number of students who would in the normal course of things have taken their Matriculation or University examinations in March or April this year, but who because they have now evacuated to India, are unable to pass those examinations and continue their studies further. In order to mitigate the hardship caused to such students, the Government of Burma have decided to hold the Burma High School Final Examination at a suitable centre in India towards the end of July 1942.

The examination will be open to all evacuee students from Burma, Indians as well as others. Intending candidates should send in their applications to the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Indians Overseas, New Delhi, so as to reach him on or before June 20, 1942. The application should give the candidates'

dates will have to take the whole prescribed examination unless they produce evidence from a professor of the University of Rangoon that they were only due for re-examination in one or two subjects. Intending candidates should send in their applications to the Secretary to the Government of India, Indians Overseas Department, so as to reach him on or before June 20. The applications should contain the following details:

Name, Age, exact postal address in India.

College, Subjects in which the candidate offered himself for examination, and a statement of previous College record with dates on which other examinations had been passed.

The actual dates and the centres at which the examinations will be held will be communicated to the candidates in due course.

### REGISTRATION OF BURMA COMPANIES

The Burma Governor has promulgated the Burma Companies' Transfer Ordinance, 1942, enabling companies incorporated under the law of Burma to register in other parts of His Majesty's dominions where legal provision for their registration may be made. The Ordinance is permissive, and becomes effective only as regards those countries within the Empire which pass complementary laws.

Bengal: Mr. B. R. Sen, Director of Civil Evacuation and Relief.

Bombay: Mr. G. F. S. Collins, Adviser to the Governor.

Assam: Mr. J. E. Reid, Director of Civil Defence.

### HOW TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT MISSING PERSONS

Relatives of persons believed to be in enemy hands as the result of operations in the Eastern theatre of war, including Burma, still appear in certain cases to be unaware to whom initial inquiries should be made.

Initial inquiries regarding all military personnel should be addressed to the Indian Red Cross, Kelvin Grove, Simla. Regarding civilian personnel inquiries should be made to the Under-Secretary, the Indians Overseas Department, New Delhi.

In the case of persons who are believed to have reached India from a theatre of war, inquiries about military non-regular personnel (such as members of local defence forces) should be addressed to the Indian Red Cross; about European civilians to the Under-Secretary, Home Department, New Delhi, and about Indians, Anglo-Indians and Asiatics to the Under-Secretary, the Indians Overseas Department.

Inquiries about civilian personnel believed to be in areas not occupied by the enemy should be made in the case of Indians to the Under-Secretary, Indians Overseas Department, and in the case of British subjects other than Indians to the Under-Secretary, External Affairs Department. All British subjects, including Indians, believed to be in Allied countries are dealt with by the Under-Secretary, External Affairs Department.

Should initial inquiries to departments other than the Red Cross fail to produce information, then the assistance of the Indian Red Cross may usefully be requested.

### TRIBUTE TO INDIAN SEAMEN

[ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 66 ]

It was the same story when the *Kemmendine* was shelled and torpedoed. Her survivors, including many Indian seamen, spent four months aboard a German raider before being imprisoned in Italian Somaliland. But not even captivity could deprive them of courage, and they were confident that rescue would soon come.

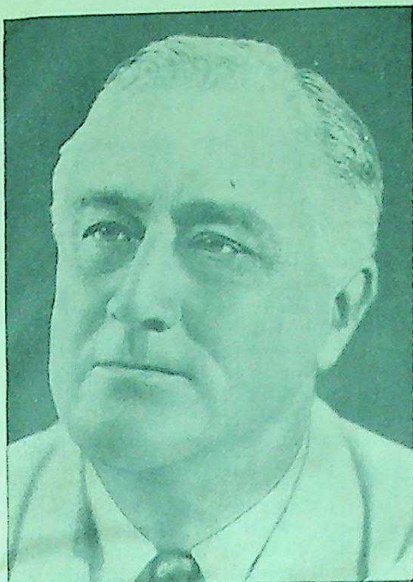
Sure enough, with the defeat of the Italians at the hands of the British and Imperial forces in the East African campaign, the men were released and enabled to rejoin the Merchant Service.

Again, a British cargo ship—the *St. Agnes*—coming from India to a British port, was torpedoed off the Portuguese coast. The crew, composed entirely of Indians, were forced to take to open boats. Not until they had suffered further attack by an enemy submarine, were they rescued by an American liner and brought to safety.

Britain owes these Indian seamen a great debt of gratitude, for it would be difficult to maintain the fight for the freedom of the seas without their aid.



## PERSONALITIES



PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

### MR. ROOSEVELT THRICE PRESIDENT OF U.S.

**F**ranklin Roosevelt is the President of the United States—the freely chosen leader of 130,000,000 people. He is the first man in the history of the United States whom the people have selected to lead them not once, not twice, but three times.

Farmers, workers, professors, little business men and industrialists, doctors, teachers, miners, sailors, engineers, mothers who work in the home, women who work in the offices—all have known this man for ten years. And in ten years, you get to know much about a man.

He was born 60 years ago on January 30. Through his veins, as through the veins of his countrymen, runs the blood of many nations: Dutch blood and Swedish, German, English, French and Italian blood. He has lived in those countries whence his ancestors came, and he knows their languages and their people with the heart of a man who is kin to them all.

#### Born On A Farm

He was born on a farm in New York State, and for 14 years he was taught by his father and mother; languages, English, French and German; taught how to sail, to ride, to know the ways of the forest and the farm. But he wanted most of all to go to sea.

His education was good. He went to Harvard University, one of the greatest in America. And here he said: "I am on the side of the people who fight for freedom." He was 21, and he had had freedom and a good life, and he wanted it for others.

He married young. Eleanor Roosevelt was his sixth cousin. She, too, had had a good life, and wanted it for others. They married on St. Patrick's Day in 1905. The President of the United States was at the wedding.

#### Serving The People

Franklin Roosevelt became a lawyer. He saw injustices around him and when he

was asked to become a candidate for the Legislature of the State of New York, he said: "I accept but with absolute independence. I am pledged to no man; I am influenced by no special interests; and so I shall remain. If elected, I will give my entire time to serving the people."

He was elected, not once but twice.

In 1913, President Wilson asked him to go to Washington to become Assistant Secretary of the Navy. When they asked him to make a naval tour, he chose the mine-laden, dangerous waters of the North Sea.

In 1921, he was sailing in the Bay of Fundy on the north-east coast. There were heavy fogs. He took over the wheel and navigated the boat for many hours through the rocky passages. Finally they were home, but before he could make the ship fast to the wharf, he fell into the icy waters. He was chilled.

At home, on the island, fire was raging through the brush. Without resting, he joined his children and his neighbours and fought the fire until it was over. He was tired that night. And the next morning, he could not move his right leg and he could not move his left. He was 40. He had infantile paralysis.

But he would not say he was sick. He would not give up. Slowly, step by step, hour by hour, he learned to walk again. The doctors said it would take 15 years. It took eight. The doctors told him to rest. He worked. Eight years from the time he was stricken, he was elected Governor of the State of New York. And again two years later. The homeless were his friends. The men without jobs were his friends. The dairymen, the farmers, the workers in the mills, the men with small stores, the taxpayers—were all his friends. They were the people.

#### The Great Depression

During the great depression, 130,000,000 Americans reached out for the man they knew and who knew them. In 1932, they made him their President. He saw injustice and he spoke against it.

Always with the people at his side, with the freely elected men of Congress, he demanded land for the farmers, homes for the homeless, food for the hungry, conservation of the rivers and the power therefrom. He said to 130,000,000 people: "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself. I assume the leadership of the great army of our people dedicated to a disciplined attack upon our common problems."

In 70 days, he laid his plan before the Congress of the people. In a hundred days, the laws had been passed. The Government had come to the aid of the people.

Three times the people elected him their freely chosen leader.

In Germany, Italy and Japan, men came to govern, not called on freely by their people, but enthroned by fear and hunger and guns.

Franklin Roosevelt knew what war was. He saw his four sons grown up. He knew what other fathers knew; how sweet and dear was peace—but with justice, with life and equality for all. Let the nations live in peace, he said. But let him beware who transgresses on the peace of his neighbours. And war came. The day of infamy.

To the soldiers of freedom, he promised that America would build 185,000 planes in two years. He promised that there would be 120,000 tanks, 55,000 anti-aircraft guns, 18,000,000 tons of ships. The people of America shared the food from their own land with their comrades-in-arms.

He sent his own four sons to the war. He said: "There are four freedoms to be won. The freedom of speech. The freedom from hunger. The freedom of God's worship. The freedom from fear." To this he pledged himself and his people. The people know that he does not make a pledge easily, but when he does, he keeps it. They know he believes there can be no peace for his people without peace for all people everywhere, small nations as well as large.

They know he will not rest until the common enemy of all people everywhere is destroyed; that he will not rest until the war is won and the peace thereafter.

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### MR. K. C. MAHINDRA, HEAD OF INDIAN PURCHASING MISSION

Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetty has, for personal reasons, resigned his office as Head of the Indian Purchasing Mission in the United States of America. The Government of India have accepted the resignation with regret, and place on record their appreciation of the very valuable service rendered by Sir Shanmukham Chetty.

Mr. K. C. Mahindra, Member of the Firm of Messrs. Martin and Company, Calcutta, has been appointed Head of the Indian Purchasing Mission in succession to Sir Shanmukham Chetty, and will leave for America early in July.

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### MR. T. R. V. CHARI

#### APPOINTED INFORMATION OFFICER

Mr. T. R. V. Chari has been appointed Information Officer in the Bureau of Public Information, Government of India.

He was until recently Deputy Press and Publicity Officer, Burma Government. He entered journalism in London and worked for a year on Reuters Headquarters Staff in London. Subsequently Mr. Chari served with Reuters in Colombo and Rangoon in charge of their bureaux and acted as Reuters Special Correspondent during the re-opening of the Burma Road.

Mr. Chari is an M.A. of the Madras University.

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### COUNCIL OF REGENCY FOR KOLHAPUR STATE

His Excellency the Crown Representative has decided that the Minority Administration of the Kolhapur State should be entrusted to a Council of Regency, and has been pleased to declare that Her Highness Maharani Tara Bai Sahiba, Senior Maharani of Kolhapur, shall be the Regent of the Kolhapur State and President of the Regency Council. Her Highness has expressed her readiness to undertake these responsibilities with effect from Tuesday, July 14, 1942, and the new Constitution will come into force on that date.



## ON THE A. I. R.

## PILOT OFFICER MOHINDRA SINGH PUJJI FROM LAHORE

It was one summer morning that our Squadron received instructions to be close escort to nine "Stirling" bombers which were that morning going to bomb a very important factory somewhere in France. Our instructions were to take off in 15 minutes' time and rendezvous over the aerodrome. We were also informed that a few more "Hurricane" and "Spitfire" Squadrons would be escorting the bombers as different covers. After having a cup of tea, we took off and were in the air on time. Meanwhile other Squadrons had also taken off and were forming over the aerodrome. Later on bombers appeared in three "Vick" formations. We formed on them and set off on the given course. Usually we meet little opposition either from ground defences or enemy fighters but on this particular day it was different.

As soon as we had crossed the English Channel, German shore batteries of anti-aircraft guns opened up on us. We were not flying very high and thus felt very uncomfortable, but to our relief the anti-aircraft fire ceased after we had covered about 10 miles. But it opened up again, this time in full force, when we were over the target. Our bombers, however, took no notice of this and dived and dropped their heavy loads of bombs on the target. I saw the first bombs hit the target but after that nothing could be seen. It was all smoke and dust.

I was still looking at the target and wondering at the disaster that had come upon it, when I heard on my radio telephone that we were being attacked by enemy fighters. Whilst the bombs were being dropped I had failed to notice that the anti-aircraft fire had suddenly stopped. That should have been a signal for me to look out for the enemy. I was late but, thanks to my aircraft, not too late. I turned my aeroplane violently to one side at an amazingly steep angle and thus missed the fire of the enemy fighter by inches. He was going too fast to manoeuvre his aircraft for another attack immediately; so I took advantage of this and followed him as fast as I could. Then a general dog-fight started. The sky seemed to be full of aeroplanes chasing one another. This, however, did not last very long. We shot down six enemy aircraft while we lost only two; one of the pilots was rescued from the channel later on. My aeroplane was undamaged except for a few holes in my star-board wing.

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## Dr. D. C. Ganguly from Dacca: "The Indus Valley Civilisation—The Social Life":—

The Indus Valley people disposed of their dead in three ways. There were complete burials, fractional burials, and post-cremation burials. According to the first category the dead were buried in the ground in a lying or sitting posture. They were provided with various sorts of offerings or grave furniture. According to the second, after the exposure of the dead to the wild animals and birds their skulls and bones were deposited in an earthen vessel



PILOT OFFICER MOHINDRA SINGH PUJJI

and then buried in the ground. According to the third system the dead were cremated. After the cremation the ashes and the charred bones were put in a wide-mouthed urn and then buried. Examples of complete burials are found in Mohen-jodaro, Harappa and Baluchistan. Out of 21 skeletons of men, women and children at Mohen-jodaro, 14 were found in a ruined chamber and 7 were recovered from the public streets. They were lying in a disorderly fashion and were not provided with the customary offerings. All these have led some scholars to suggest that these dead, who were members of some wandering jungle tribes, and who visited Mohen-jodaro after its ruin, "must have been the victims of some unwanted tragedy—plague, famine, or sudden death, and that the corpses were left to lie where they had perished." Sir John Marshall disagrees with this view. He finds evidence to prove that the dead were intentionally buried there and that they represent three distinct racial types, viz., Proto-Australoids, Mediterraneans and Alpines. So the theory that the dead belonged to some jungle tribes cannot be accepted. According to him these dead were buried there in accordance with the system under the first category. Evidence of fractional burial can be collected from Harappa, Mohen-jodaro, and Nal in Baluchistan. Five such burials have been found at Mohen-jodaro, and two such at Harappa. Examples of post-cremation burials have been found in abundance in the Indus Valley. The most usual practice in the Indus Valley was cremation. Complete and fractional burials were comparatively rare. These two systems were practised in Baluchistan and Western Persia, where the prevailing culture was Persian rather than Indian. Sir John Marshall suggests that these types of burials were introduced in the Indus Valley by the foreign elements who migrated there from the western countries.

## F. W. Bustin from Lahore: "Foot-notes to the News":—

It is difficult to see why Japan should attempt to reach Chungking by the difficult Yunnan route when the alternative way via the Yangtze River from Hankow is the shortest and easiest route.

If we accept this view we have also to ask ourselves the question, if Japan does not intend to embark on a large-scale invasion of China from Burma, to what purpose will she put the large forces which are at her disposal in Burma itself? Such a question must be an awkward one for us in India for the eastern borders of Bengal, Manipur and Assam run with the western borders of Burma. Yet I still think that, apart from incursions and occasional air raids, carried out with an eye more to morale than to military expediency, India will territorially see little of Japanese aggression. If it is still Japan's primary intention—as she has frequently stated—to liquidate the China incident and, simultaneously but secondarily, to exploit the resources of the territories already under her heel, she has a job on her hands which will require every soldier she can spare from the task of holding the fruits of her aggression. We may expect part of her force in Burma to be used for the sealing of the Burma Road and any other supply lines which link China with the outside world. The remainder of that force will, it appears, be required in China proper, if recent renewal of military activity there means, as it seems to mean, that Japan is determined finally to crush Marshal Chiang Kai-shek and all that he stands for.

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## V. G. Kiernan from Lahore: "The Chinese Scene—Ancient Culture and New Movement":—

Humour is a conservative quality and the need of the moment is not always conservation. The Chinese have had enough minor troubles to keep them from smugness. Their humour is part of their rationality. This rationality makes them adaptable. Modern China, it is true, like other eastern nations, has oscillated between too much hatred and too much love of the West. The mandarin of 1890 thought the volumes of the West did not fit to serve as wrapping-paper for the wisdom of China. The student of 1910 thought the wisdom of China not worth one locomotive; he was even ready to turn Christian. The nationalist of 1930 conscientiously wore Chinese clothes and ate Chinese food, and thought he had done his duty. However, these tendencies were all those of fractional groups. The mandarin of 1890 was a vested interest—a professional conservative. The modern nationalist is rarely a fanatic. The Kuomintang's New Life Movement was never likely to be widespread in its more extreme forms, which represented a pilgrimage all the way back to Confucius. The Chinese has no obsessions or complexes to bind him to his own past. He can preserve, and discard on grounds of commonsense. He can criticise modernity without writing bombastic epics about the gods and heroes of ancient China. He can combine in himself the urbanity of the classics with the speculative and practical interest of the West.



# WEIGHTS, MEASURES—COINAGE—GLOSSARY—POINTS ABOUT INDIA

## WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Weights and measures in India vary not only from district to district but also for different commodities.

The principal units in all the scales of weights are the maund, seer and tola, and the standard weights for each of these are 82.28 lbs., 2.057 lbs. and 180 grains troy respectively.

The Indian tola is the same weight as the rupee, viz., 180 grains troy; the standard or railway seer is equal to 2.057 lbs. while the standard or railway maund of 40 seers is equivalent to 82 lbs. 4 oz. 9 drams. There are numerous local variations.

## COINAGE—RUPEE IN DOLLARS AND POUNDS

Re. 1 is approximately 1 sh. 6d. or 30.05 cents.  
Rs. 100 are approximately £7/9/6 or \$30.05.  
Rs. 1,000 are approximately £74/14/10 or \$300.53.  
Rs. 1,00,000 (a lakh) are approximately £7,473/19/2 or \$30,053.  
Rs. 1,00,00,000 (a crore) are approximately £747,393/16/8 or \$3,005,259.  
100,000 is one lakh (1,00,000)  
10,000,000 is one crore (1,00,00,000)

### COINAGE

3 pies are 1 pice.  
4 pice are 1 anna.  
16 annas are 1 rupee.

## GLOSSARY OF SOME COMMON INDIAN TERMS

Abkari	Excise.
Ahimsa	Non-violence.
Akhbar	Newspaper.
Amir (or Emir)	Nobleman; Chief.
Anjuman	Association; gathering.
Badmash	A bad character; a ruffian.
Bajra (or Bajri)	Millet.
Bahadur	Brave; Heroic; a title.
Bustee	Slum; collection of huts.
Begum	A lady of high family; a Princess.
Bhang	Hemp leaf (used as an intoxicant).
Bharat	India.
Bigha	A measure of land (about a third of an acre).
Bund	Embankment.
Chapati	Unleavened bread made in thin flat cakes.
Chaprassi	Orderly; bearer.
Charka (or Charkha)	A spinning wheel.
Charpoy	A bedstead with a mattress made of woven rope or tape.
Chowkidar	A village policeman.
Dak	Post; mail.
Dal	Pulses.
Durbar	A ceremonial court; a levee.
Durwan	A door-keeper; a commissioner.
Dewan	Prime Minister to an Indian Chief; a title.
Fakir; Sadhu	Mendicant; fakir generally to Muslims.
Ghee	Clarified butter.
Godown	Store-room; warehouse.
Goonda	A ruffian; a bad character.
Gur	Crude sugar.
Guru	A Hindu religious preceptor.
Grantha Saheb	Sikhs' Bible or Book of Prophets.
Haj	A pilgrimage by a Muslim to Mecca. (Hence 'Haji,' one who has performed the Haj.)
Harijan	Untouchables (brought into current use by Mr. Gandhi; literal meaning "people of God").
Hundi	A bill of exchange; a draft.
Imam	The leader in Muslim prayer.
Jagir	Land given by Government as reward. (Hence 'Jagirdar,' holder of a jagir.)
Jamadar	Indian officer in the army or police (lowest rank).
Jirga (or Jirgah)	A council of tribal elders (especially of the Frontier clans or tribes).
Jowar	Millet (the large species).
Jogi (Yogi)	A Hindu ascetic.
Kutchra	Raw; green; unripe; inefficient; irregular; unfinished.
Khadi (or Khaddar)	Cloth made on a handloom from hand-spun yarn.
Khan	A Pathan chief or nobleman; a Pathan title.
Khalsa	Lit. 'pure,' 'society of the pure,' founded by Guru Govind Singh, is now equivalent to the Sikh community.
Khas	Personal; private; reserved; state-owned.
Kisan	An agriculturist; a farmer.

## POINTS ABOUT INDIA

Viceroy—H. E. The Marquess of Linlithgow, K.T., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., O.B.E., D.L., T.D.



### MEMBERS OF THE VICEROY'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

His Excellency General Sir Archibald Percival Wavell, G.C.B., C.M.G., M.C., British Service, Commander-in-Chief in India (*Defence*).  
The Hon'ble Mr. Nalini Ranjan Sarker (*Education, Health and Lands*).  
The Hon'ble Sir Hormusji P. Mody, K.B.E. (*Supply*).  
The Hon'ble Sir Sultan Ahmed (*Law*).  
The Hon'ble Sir Reginald Maxwell, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S. (*Home*).  
The Hon'ble Dewan Bahadur Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar (*Commerce*).  
The Hon'ble Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E. (*Labour*).  
The Hon'ble Sir Jeremy Raisman, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S. (*Finance*).  
The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney (*Indians Overseas*).

### NEW MEMBERS :

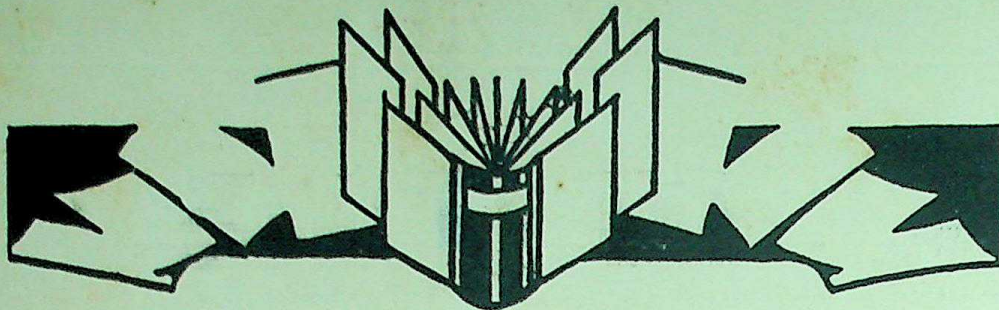
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# INDIAN INFORMATION



Vol. II, No. 98, August 1, 1942.  
Issued Fortnightly by the  
Principal Information Officer,  
Government of India.

● CIVIL DEFENCE IN INDIA  
● THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PACT

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## They Said

"I wish to express once again the heartfelt gratitude of the peoples of the Empire to the brave men of the Royal Navy and the Merchant Navy, on whom so much depends and in whom we place our unbounded trust. Never has their spirit been more resolutely displayed than in the passage of vital convoys, and I wish them Godspeed in their task and safe return from the dangers which beset them on their voyages."—*His Majesty the King-Emperor's message, July 19.*



"Lay aside your differences and stand together as one man and fight this fight out, by the side of your friends and allies. Fight for your homes, your posterity, and your culture. This terrible war can only end with our victory, utter and complete. Fascism, Nazism and the treacherous power-lust of Japan must be buried in a pit so deep that they can never rise to torment the world again. The more of us that help to dig that grave and the harder each one of us digs, the sooner will the task be done."—*H. R. H. the Duke of Gloucester in his farewell message to India, July 16.*

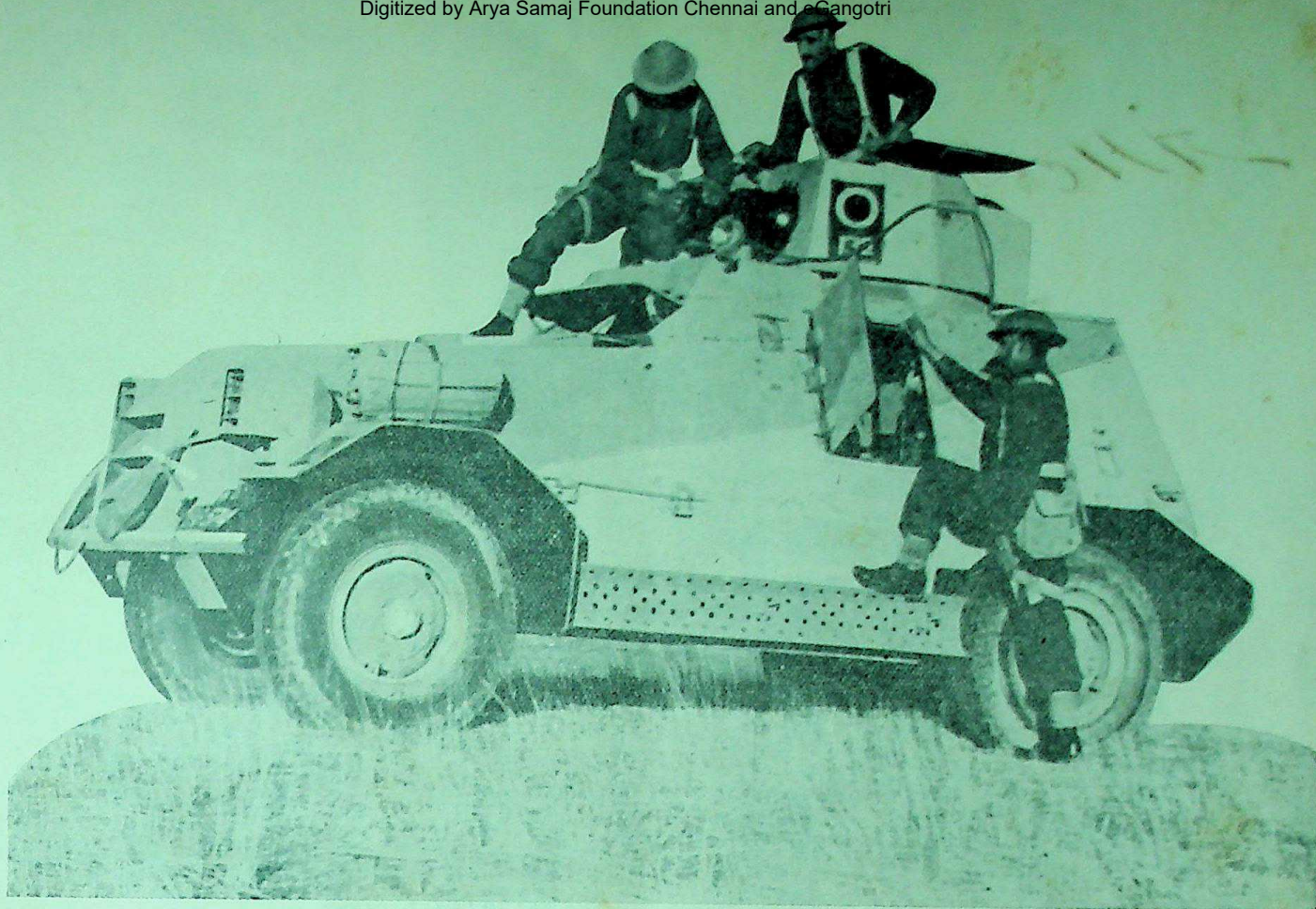


"For us the restoration of France as a Great Power is not only a declared war aim and the fulfilment of a pledge made to a sister nation, but also a practical necessity if post-war reconstruction is to be undertaken within the framework of that traditional civilization which is our common heritage."—*Mr. Anthony Eden in a message to France on Bastille Day, July 14.*



"This is a total war, and if we are to win it, as we shall, we must be prepared to give up luxuries, our comforts and our convenience. Sacrifice of self for the common good, for the rescue of the world from the barbarians who threaten it with disaster, and for the termination of the miseries which at present oppress millions is not a question of politics or even of self-interested policy. It is simple duty which we owe to Bengal, to India and to civilization itself."—*Lady Mary Herbert, Calcutta, July 19.*





THIS ARMoured CAR IS MANNED BY MEN OF A FAMOUS INDIAN ARMoured CORPS REGIMENT

## INDIAN BRIGADE'S BATTLE FOR TOBRUK

**W**hen I left Tobruk on the day before the perimeter was closed, the enemy was reported to be in force to the west, south and east, writes an Indian Army Observer. The Bardia-Tobruk road had not, up till then, been cut by the enemy, and Rommel's main armour was, observed moving south-east towards El Adem.

The Trieste Division south of Sidi Rezeg moved north to cut the Bardia-Tobruk road. Our main armour took up positions in the triangle south-west of Tobruk. The 11th Brigade were to defend the triangle south-east of Tobruk. The Gurkhas took up positions on the left, the Mahrattas in the centre and the Camerons on the right. The 25th Field Battery and the 68th Mediums were in support.

On the morning of June 20, a German armoured column cut the only outlet from Tobruk—the Tobruk-Bardia road, and the gap in the perimeter was closed. Barely two hours later the Germans commenced their main assault. This did not come up against our armoured forces, as we expected, but the weakest spot tactically on the perimeter—the position held by the Mahrattas.

### Enemy Air Attacks

About 2 o'clock in the afternoon the enemy put up a terrific barrage on this point. Almost immediately, flight after flight of JU 87s and 88s, flying at extremely low level, bombed a passage through the mine-field. The bombing was then shifted to the Mahrattas' positions and, at the same time, another barrage of high explosive shells came over. Under cover of this, German shock troops got through the gap made by the JUs. Immediately behind came the tanks, followed by Italian infantry.

The shock troops spread out and threw out smoke candles to screen the tanks com-

ing up behind. The Mahrattas stood their ground and for over half an hour pinned the enemy infantry to the ground, but the incessant shelling and bombing allowed the tanks to close in. The Mahrattas gallantly attempted to face the onslaught, but finally were overrun. Meanwhile, more and more armour and infantry poured through the gap. The enemy infantry and some armour engaged the Gurkhas and Camerons, but the main force of tanks moved straight on to our gun positions and proceeded methodically to put each gun out of action.

At this point the Colonel commanding the Mahrattas sent out a message for tank support, which, however, came up too late. When it did arrive the Germans had trebled their anti-tank guns and had them placed in every conceivable strategic position. Our tanks, mostly 'I' class, ran into these guns at every point.

The enemy tanks then spread out fan-wise and moved straight for the 11th Brigade Headquarters, meeting on their way the 25th Field Battery Headquarters, which was shelled, machine-gunned and finally overrun. The tanks then proceeded towards the 11th Brigade Headquarters. The Brigadier held on to the very last minute, then gave orders to burn all documents and make for the beach south of Tobruk.

### Desperate Stand

Meanwhile, the Gurkhas and the Camerons were making a desperate stand and had, by now, split up into small pockets determined to hold on to the last. The Brigadier and another officer jumped into a truck and drove towards the South Africans to get assistance. That was the last that was seen of them.

By now the shelling and bombing had increased in intensity. Several enemy tanks had reached the town. From the abandoned 11th Brigade Headquarters some 40 or 50 men, including several Indians, straggled towards the beach under heavy machine-gun and shrapnel fire. Arriving at the southern ridge overlooking the harbour they stared into what really might be called 'Satan's Cauldron'!

The Navy, depleted as it was, threw a smoke screen around the harbour. Stuka dive-bombers and JUs bombed without respite. The Germans had also brought up heavy howitzers west of the town, from where they shelled the harbour.

The men, impossible as the attempt seemed, rushed to the water's edge. One of our small torpedo craft picked them up but no sooner had they scrambled aboard than the boat got two direct hits. They abandoned the ship and were picked up by another. As the ship slipped out of that smoke basin, away to the right towards the perimeter, the men could hear the rattle of machine-gun fire—the Gurkhas and Camerons were still holding out.

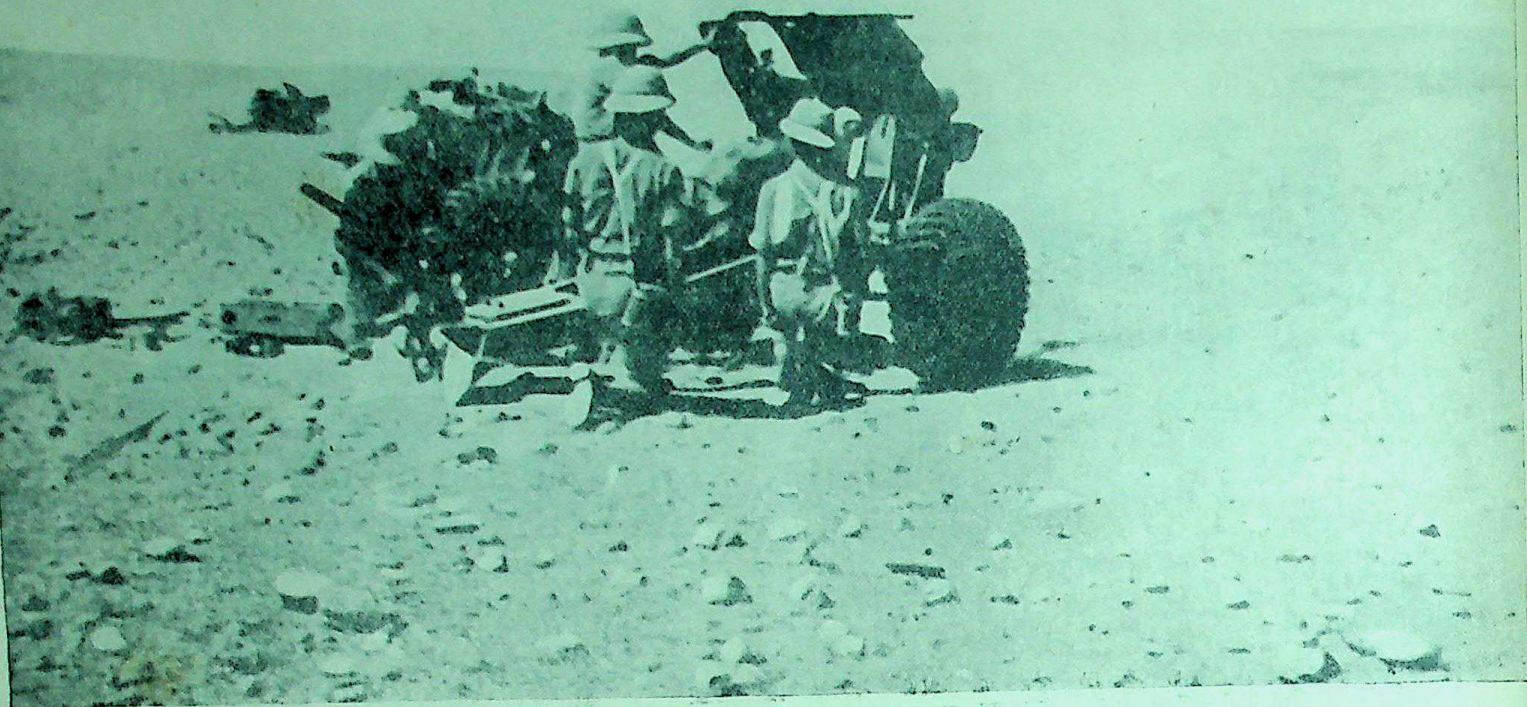
Several hours later some 200 men, dirty and dishevelled, and with lines of utter weariness stamped on their faces, raised a cheer for the gallant Skipper and his equally gallant crew who brought them back alive.

### AMBULANCE CAR

The Lawrence Royal Military School, Sanawar, Simla Hills, have sent a sum of Rs. 3,275 to H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund for the gift of an ambulance car to be named 'Sanawar.'

The gift has been gratefully accepted by H. E. the Viceroy.





ARTILLERY IN ACTION IN THE DESERT ON THE WAY TO DEIR-EZ-ZOR IN SYRIA

# SYRIA

## INDIAN TROOPS' PART IN THE MEZZE ACTION

In the dusty wastes of the Western Desert, in the bush of the Abyssinian border, in the towering rocky mountains of Eritrea, and amid the softer and greener hills of Syria, Indian troops fought with courage, resourcefulness and success for eight months from December, 1940 to July, 1941.

During this period they accomplished much and dared more. With their comrades from other parts of the British Empire, they utterly defeated two great Italian armies, and saved Iraq and Syria from enemy domination. With the exception of the initial evacuation of British Somaliland and the action at Mechili, their story is one of continuous success, the two outstanding victories being those of Sidi Barrani and Keron, with the fight at Mezze, near Damascus, as the peak of Indian gallantry.

These great and gallant actions of the 4th and 5th Indian Divisions are recorded in a book entitled "The Tiger Strikes."

Here is the description of the action at Mezze:

### The Action At Mezze

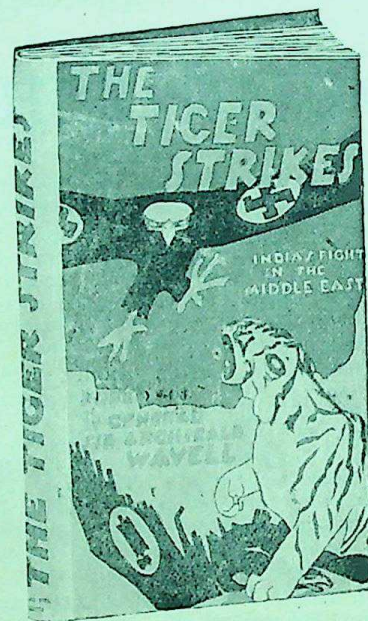
On the evening of June 18, 1941, the 1st Punjab Regiment and the 6th Rajputana Rifles set forth on what turned out to be one of the most heroic and desperate actions of the war. The plan was to pass right through the enemy lines during the dark and seize the village of Mezze, thus cutting the French line of retreat by road and rail to Beirut. The Free French were to co-operate by attacking up the main road from Kissoué to Damascus. One company of the 1st Punjabis was left to hold Jebel Madani. The Battalion de

P'Infanterie de Marine remained in Aartouz, but was to move up to Mezze at daybreak with the artillery and anti-tank guns which could not go forward across country during the dark. The sole surviving company of the Fusiliers remained in reserve. The few tanks available had to be left to guard the exposed desert flank. After a day's lull in active operations during which some of the tired troops managed to have a bath in the various streams, all were in better condition to undertake such a desperate enterprise than they had been 24 hours before.

The column formed up south of Aartouz and at 8-30 p.m. began to move. In front went the battalion of the 1st Punjab Regiment, followed by Brigade Headquarters, the Rajputana Rifles and a detachment of Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners. The route lay to the west of the road, but a transport column of 12 vehicles containing ammunition, food and medical stores moved along the road parallel to the rear of the column. The Sikh company of the Punjabis were given the special task of dealing with the fortified hamlet of Mouaddamiye, while the Rajput company was sent up on to the hills to seize the main enemy observation post near the forts.

### Attack On Mouaddamiye

While the battalions were forming up, the area was heavily shelled, and although no casualties were sustained, some men got lost in the intense darkness. Nevertheless the advance started in good order, and the attack on Mouaddamiye began shortly after 10 p.m. The head of the advance guard kept approximately parallel to the flashes of bursting grenades in the

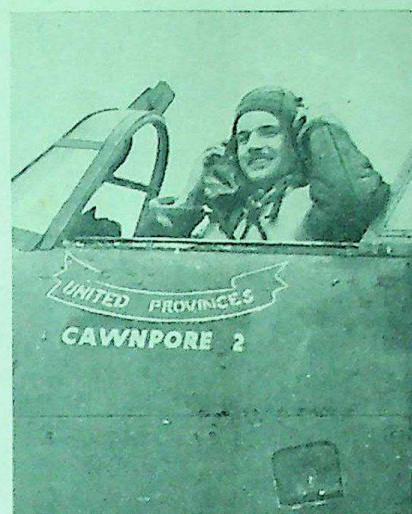
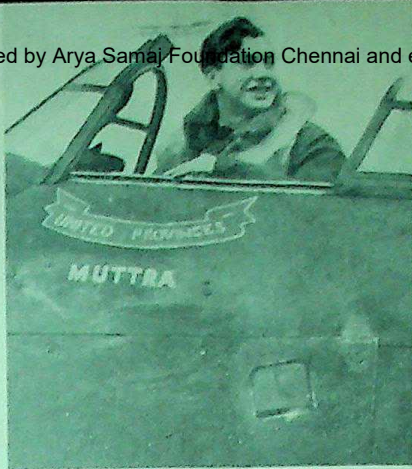


"The Tiger Strikes," published with the authority of the Government of India by the Director of Public Relations, describes the exploits of the British and Indian soldiers in the Middle East.

Mouaddamiye woods. All hell was let loose, from in front and both sides, and the road itself was intensively shelled. The column, however, was not affected as it was some distance off the road.

The company attacking Mouaddamiye put in a most gallant attack. In the intense darkness in the woods the men called out to each other how they were getting on. One tank after another, useless in the dark, was found and set alight. Twenty-seven men only got through to the far edge of the wood, but they had scuppered this strong enemy post and enabled the main column to proceed.





All the aircraft in the Squadron, which is equipped with Blenheim bombers have the words "United Provinces" printed in gold letters in a scroll on the port side of the fuselage. Cawnpore, Muttra, Budaun, Sitapur, Lucknow, Aligarh, Sultanpur and Moradabad also contributed funds for the purchase of aircraft, which have been named after these towns

today a coveted honour, and civilian visitors to it have often remarked on the spirit of loyalty and affection among its air crews. Here are a few incidents from the great and grave days of the Squadron. They will help to explain why its name stands so high.

During the "Battle of the Bulge" and the Battle of France, the Squadron experienced a disaster which might have shaken the morale of any unit. In May its Squadron Leader led a formation of 12 Blenheims near Gosselies. They were intercepted by fighters, and of 12 only one returned. Only that survivor and a few other aircraft of the Squadron flying elsewhere in France that day were left.

The Squadron started re-forming. Then the crews, believed to have been lost at Gosselies, began to turn up at their base. They used every form of transport from tanks to destroyers, and, four days after the disaster at Gosselies, the Squadron was attacking a German transport near Fleury.

On June 13 half of a formation which was sent to destroy tanks near Foretdegault, was shot down by enemy fighters, but the next day the Squadron was attacking again. This time the target was an aerodrome at Bethune while the Germans were entering Paris.

Day after day throughout the swift weeks of the Battle of France aircraft of the Squadron bombed German hangars and tanks

and machine-gunned lorries! Sometimes they went out from their base in England twice a day.

#### Another Grave Day

August 13 of that first year of the war was another grave day for the Squadron. For the second time in three months it was almost wiped out. Of 12 aircraft 11 failed to return; they had been sent to attack the Germans at Aalborg. But the miracle of Gosselies was repeated and two days later the Squadron was active again. They worked by night and day; they would send, for example, ten Blenheims at midday to attack shipping along the enemy coast and that same night these Blenheims attacked guns at Cap Gris Nez.





THIS PILOT PAINTS THE NAME OF A TOWN IN THE UNITED PROVINCES, BAHRAICH, ON HIS PLANE



SERGEANT PILOTS OF THE U.P. SQUADRON



U. P. SQUADRON LEADER WITH PILOTS



OFFICERS OF U. P. FIGHTER SQUADRON

During the rest of 1940, while the Battle of Britain was being fought and won, the Squadron was hard at work bombing by day Gelsenkirchen and Hamburg; invasion barges along the coast; the Cherbourg, Ostend, Dunkirk and Calais docks; and the Rhineland by night. Night patrols over enemy aerodromes became almost a routine order. On the first day of 1941 the Squadron was over Bremen at 1,000 feet at 9.55 p. m., bombing and starting fires. Before spring came, the Squadron had left a trail of fire in Essen, Dusseldorf, Cologne, Rotterdam, Bremen and Wilhelmshaven and in various German aerodromes.

#### Attacks On Shipping

Then began the shipping attacks delivered from mast height which last year won glory for Blenheims. These tactics demanded the utmost skill and the utmost daring,

as the bombers flew low over the ships and through a barrage of anti-aircraft fire in tight formation. It was the custom of the Squadron, as it was of all Blenheim squadrons, to fly at sea level on these perilous shipping attacks and at the last moment to lift over the ship while directing bombs into the ship's freeboard.

Next the Squadron moved to the Mediterranean. While there, it was concerned in two actions of exceptional valour. On June 22, 1941, one of its pilots was piloting a Blenheim off Lampedusa. During a bombing run on to a convoy he was badly hit in the leg and buttock, but pressed home his attack from mast height. Enemy fighters appeared, but the pilot took avoiding action and his rear gunner beat off the attacks. During the return flight the officer pilot began to fall into a stupor. His observer

sergeant pulled him out of his seat, took over the controls and flew and navigated the aircraft for 90 miles over sea back to its base.

The pilot was conscious at moments and, when told that they were over the base, insisted on landing the aircraft. He was in great pain and very weak from loss of blood, but he got into his seat again and made a safe landing. Doctors found that, apart from a bad wound in the buttock, both his legs had been hit by a cannon shell. Now, nine months later, he has just finished his treatment and is back at his station for flying duties.

#### Engines Ablaze

As the Squadron Leader of the "United Provinces" was leading a section of Blenheims against a well-protected convoy south of Pantelleria in June, 1941, he was met by





Vol. II, No. 98

## INDIAN INFORMATION

August 1, 1942

INDIAN  
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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA. ASSOCIATE EDITOR, CECILIE LESLIE.

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COVER PICTURE: PILOT OFFICER HUKAM CHAND MEHTA, ONE OF THE I.A.F. PILOTS ON ACTIVE SERVICE WITH THE R.A.F. IN ENGLAND, WHO WAS KILLED IN ACTION.

CONTENTS PAGE PICTURE: MEMBER OF A.R.P. FORCE ATTACHED TO AN INDIAN OIL REFINERY.



## ♦ FACTS AND FIGURES ♦

**India's trade with the United States** of America recorded an increase in 1940-41. Imports nearly doubled, rising from Rs. 14,86 lakhs to Rs. 27,00 lakhs, while exports increased from Rs. 27,18 lakhs to Rs. 31,34 lakhs. India's principal exports to the U.S.A. consisted of raw and manufactured jute, hides and skins, lac, fruits and vegetables, raw cotton and raw wool, while imports from the U.S.A. consisted chiefly of machinery and millwork, motor vehicles, mineral oils, instruments, manufactured tobacco, chemicals, dyeing and tanning substances, iron and steel, zinc, paper and paste-board and raw cotton.

**To aid and encourage** the scientific and industrial development of India, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (Commerce Department, Government of India), will lease, from time to time, new industrial research processes discovered and formulated under its auspices to competent industrial concerns for exploitation. The results of researches are embodied in non-technical notes prepared by the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research and circulated to the various Chambers of Commerce and commercial bodies. Firms which accept these processes may have to pay suitable consideration in the form of lump sum contribution to the Industrial Research Fund or recurring royalties or both.

**The Government of India** have constituted five Regional Price and Supply Boards to co-ordinate the prices and supplies control policies of neighbouring provinces and States. Most of these Boards have already started functioning.

**China and India** comprise a population of more than 800,000,000—an almost inexhaustible reservoir of man-power.

**Seventy-eight Industrial disputes** resulting in the loss of 1,184,919 working days occurred in British India during the quarter ending with September 30, 1941. The number of workers involved was 108,820, which is about 3.5 per cent of the total number employed in industries in India.

**Nearly 80,000 surgical instruments** manufactured in India have been supplied to the Indian Red Cross Commissioner for despatch to Russia.

**One million "Suture" needles** were manufactured in India during the six months ending with May 1942, and the production of six million more has been planned over the next 12 months.

**In memory of** the fine feat of arms of the Indian Army at Keren, the Government of India have named the newly constructed block of flats at Grand Hotel, Simla, as "Keren" block.

**Under the present arrangement** for the evacuation of Indians from Burma no refugee need pay anything from the moment he reaches Tamu on the border till he arrives at a railhead in India. Food, shelter, water, coolies and lorries are all under Government control and are supplied free. On the railway, too, those who cannot afford to pay are carried free to their destinations. The value of free railway tickets issued at one station alone amounted to Rs. 8,50,000.

**The Sarda Canal Extension Project** involving the construction of 352 miles of new channels, 77 miles of drains and the remodelling of 225 miles of existing channels, is nearing completion. The total culturable area commanded by this Project is 381,000 acres, and it is anticipated that on an average 80,000 acres of Rabi, 11,000 acres of sugarcane, and 40,000 acres of other Kharif will be irrigated annually.

**It has been arranged** to give Chinese Medical Officers special training facilities in India and to release to China from Indian stocks five million tablets of quinine.

**Sixty-five per cent** of the medical supplies and stores required for the armed forces are now made in India as compared with 25 per cent before the war.

**Investigations carried out** at the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, have revealed the possibility of utilising *ulla* grass (*Themeda arundinacea*), until recently known under the name of *Anthisteria gigantes*, for the manufacture of wrapping and packing papers. This grass is available in the forests of the United Provinces in sufficient quantity and at economic prices to support a mill with a capacity of about 6,000 tons per annum.

**The Posts and Telegraphs Department** handled 1,215 million postal articles during 1940-41.

**India possesses over** 45,000,000 sheep yielding approximately 86,000,000 lbs. of wool, per annum, valued at about Rs. 4.2 crores.

**Her Excellency the Marchioness** of Linlithgow's Silver Trinket Fund has made a provision of Rs. 1,33,333-5-4 for the Indian Ward at the Seamen's hospital in London, which suffered severe damage from bombing. The hospital caters for merchant seamen from all parts of the world.

**Before the war,** the value of annual purchases of tents for the Army amounted to some Rs. 10 lakhs. In 1939-40 the value of tentage contracts placed in India rose to nearly Rs. 1 crore; in 1940-41 it was Rs. 8½ crores; and in 1941-42 it reached Rs. 13 crores. For the current year purchases are estimated at Rs. 16 crores, or 160 times the peace-time figure.

**Amla is included** as an ingredient in many Ayurvedic medicines and tonics. Fresh *amla* was found to be a most effective cure for scurvy when an outbreak of the disease occurred in 1940 in the Hissar famine area. Tablets made from *amla* powder contain vitamin C in concentrated form and this is a convenient method of preserving this vitamin for future use.

**Orders for cotton textiles** valued over Rs. 16½ crores were placed by the Supply Department with firms in various parts of India during January and February 1942.

**There were 31 cases** of highway mail robbery in the year 1940-41. Of these 12 occurred in the North-West Frontier Province and 13 in the United Provinces.

**Well over 200 armoured carriers** (which cost Rs. 10,373 each) have so far been purchased for the Indian Army from voluntary contributions in India.

**A great portion** of railway earnings comes through goods traffic. For instance, out of Rs. 126 crores gross earnings in 1940-41, earnings from goods traffic amounted to Rs. 81 crores, while those from passengers, their luggage and parcels together amounted to only Rs. 42 crores.

**The Bengal Government** are considering measures for the removal from Calcutta of its army of beggars at an early date. There are about 6,000 beggars in Calcutta, two-thirds of whom are perfectly healthy.

**During 1940-41,** the India Meteorological Department supplied to aircraft flying along the various air routes more than 11,000 forecasts, 16,000 upper wind reports and 31,000 current weather reports, including warnings of adverse weather and improvements thereof.

**War conditions** demand the running of many special trains for the conveyance of troops, prisoners of war, supplies and equipment, etc., and in the nine months ending December 31, 1941, 1,974 such specials have already been run.



## INDIAN INFORMATION

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MEMBERS OF LAHORE'S ADDITIONAL POLICE DEMONSTRATE HOW TO DEAL WITH AN INCENDIARY BOMB

## ORGANISATION OF CIVIL DEFENCE IN INDIA

The general organisation of Civil Defence in India, together with charts showing the links connecting the Central Government, Provincial Governments and local authorities with the actual operations on the ground, and a suggested organisation of A.R.P. for a town is given in the second edition of A.R.P. Handbook No. 1 (India), issued by the Civil Defence Department, Government of India.

The chart (on page 93) showing the Civil Defence organisation and the chain of responsibility for its correct functioning is based on the principle that measures necessary for Civil Defence are an extension of the peacetime functions of Government (whether Provincial or Central) to suit war conditions and that the responsibility for each subject of Civil Defence should be placed on that Department of Government which administers a similar subject in peacetime. Thus, the Medical Department is responsible for hospitals and the A.R.P. Casualty Organisation; the Public Works Department, for the design and execution of protective works; and the Educational Department, for Civil Defence in educational establishments, museums, libraries, art galleries and archaeological monuments.

**Additional Assistance**

This principle (says the Handbook) should be observed throughout the Government administration. The Commissioner, District Magistrate and Sub-Divisional Officer respectively is the ultimate authority for Civil Defence in the Division, District and Sub-Division as the case may be. All communications from the Government re-

garding A.R.P. and Civil Defence matters should be sent to or through the District Magistrate, or, failing this, copies should be sent to him for information, as he is responsible for the proper organisation and functioning of the A.R.P. Services, even though a separate Controller may have been appointed. The above officers require additional assistance if they are to fulfil their added responsibilities and it is considered better for that assistance to take the form of appointing officers to relieve them of part of their peacetime functions and so enable them to devote a greater part of their time to Civil Defence, rather than to appoint special officers to administer Civil Defence under their supervision. The same applies also to the other District officials such as the Civil Surgeon and the Executive Engineer (P.W.D.)

**One General Plan**

Whilst each department is responsible for policy and the technical direction of Civil Defence, there must be means whereby the departmental activities are co-ordinated so as to harmonise with one general plan and to prevent gaps or overlapping.

The Home Department, under the Chief Secretary, is the normal co-ordinating authority in a Provincial Government, a Commissioner in his Division, a District Magistrate in his District and a Sub-Divisional Officer in his Sub-Division. Except in the case of Commissioners who will exercise their control in the same way as they do in respect of their normal functions, co-ordination should be secured by regular periodic meetings, weekly if possible, of

the officers responsible for each section of the Civil Defence plan.

For this plan to operate effectively, particularly in the event of invasion, it is essential that it should be co-ordinated with the Military plans for active defence, and it is most important that the appropriate Military Commander should be constantly consulted by the Provincial Government, Commissioner, District Magistrate and Sub-Divisional Officer in their respective spheres. He should, therefore, be invited to attend or send a representative to the periodic meetings.

Every effort should be made by each of the Civil Officers mentioned above to keep the appropriate Military Commander, no matter how junior in rank he may be, informed of the measures proposed to be taken in an emergency and to see how far he can assist the Military Commander and how far he can count on assistance from him.

**District Magistrate's Position**

The handbook defines the position of the District Magistrate (or corresponding officer in Presidency Towns) thus:—The District Magistrate is the generally accepted representative of Government in his district. Very wide powers are being delegated to him in an emergency and these may reach the stage of delegation of all the powers of Government. In any case, he has inherent powers as the representative of Government, and experience has shown that after a raid he must take charge generally and act fearlessly on his own responsibility. He must, therefore, be prepared for this.

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### ORGANISATION OF CIVIL DEFENCE

[CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

Where a civil district contains more than one classified town it is for consideration whether the District Magistrate can both be "Controller" in the headquarters town as well as standing above, and being generally responsible for the whole civil defence organisation of the district. In any case, he must accept the latter responsibility.

In outlying towns it is necessary to put the Sub-Divisional Magistrate in a position analogous to that of the District Magistrate above; similarly, Departmental officers of such towns, Assistant Surgeon, P.W.D. Engineer, etc., should be placed in a position in which they can act freely in an emergency.

Every contingency cannot be foreseen and more important than the exact formal delegation of powers is the assurance of approval and support from above if officers act with strength and reason.

The principle advocated is the acceptance of full responsibility for efficiency in each department from top to bottom, allowing every department of Government to take its full share in the battle on the home front.

The analogies may be given of ordinary district administration during any civil emergency, plague, communal trouble, etc., and of the manner in which a local army commander deals with the Supply, Transport, Medical and other services which are professionally organised by specialists.

Goodwill and the determination to subordinate all personal feelings to an all-out effort to resist the enemy and win the war and personal contact, instead of writing on paper, are the greatest factors in making this system work smoothly.

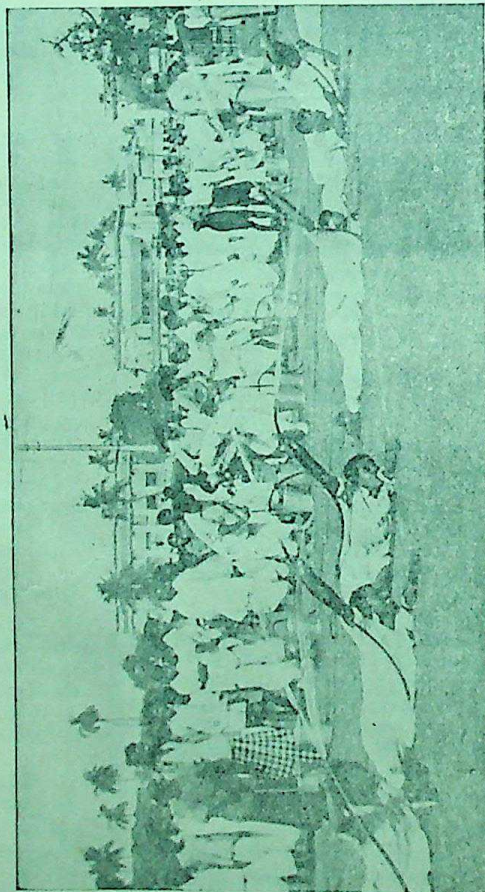
1. The Chart on page 93 shows the Civil Defence Organisation in India and the chain of responsibility for its correct functioning.

2. The dotted lines, which are vertical, indicate the channels of policy and technical direction between the Government of India and the actual operations on the ground. The various Departments of the Government of India and the Provincial Governments are responsible for organisation and administration through the channels indicated.

THERE ARE NEARLY 9,000 MEMBERS IN HOWRAH'S FIRE-FIGHTING SERVICES



A.R.P. Demonstration at Nalhati, near Calcutta. The man with the shield approaches the bomb and, from a convenient distance, directs the water hose on to the bomb front.



3. The continuous lines, which are all horizontal, indicate the means of co-ordinating all departmental activities so as to harmonise with one general plan and to prevent gaps or overlapping.

4. The Home Department, under the Chief Secretary, is the normal co-ordinating authority in a Provincial Government and has, therefore, been shown above the line co-ordinating the other departments of the Provincial Government. The District Magistrate, in his district, and the Sub-Divisional Officer, in his Sub-Division, are the other co-ordinating authorities and in all three cases co-ordination should be secured by regular weekly meetings of as many of the officers shown under each horizontal line as are necessary, together with the A.R.P. Controller if the District Magistrate or S. D. O. does not himself hold this office, and the Heads of A. R. P. Services.

5. The Chart is only illustrative of a Provincial Government whose portfolios are arranged as set out in para 7 below: in the case of a different distribution of portfolios or a different allocation of responsibilities to various departments the necessary consequential changes in the Chart should be made to suit local circumstances but the underlying principle is that Civil Defence subjects should be dealt with by those Departments of Government which deal with similar subjects in peace-time.

6. The second Chart on page 94 shows the organisation of the A. R. P. Services in a town.

7. Distribution of portfolios and allocation of subjects with relation to the Specimen Chart. (The list is not intended to be exhaustive and in any case deals only with Civil Defence and allied subjects.)

### HOME DEPARTMENT

(General Administration)

1. War organisation and planning.
2. Liaison with military.
3. General administrative policy in consultation with other Departments.
4. Co-operation with neighbouring Provinces and Indian States.
5. Co-ordination of Civil Defence.
6. Progress reports.
7. A. R. P. equipment, material and vehicles.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 95]



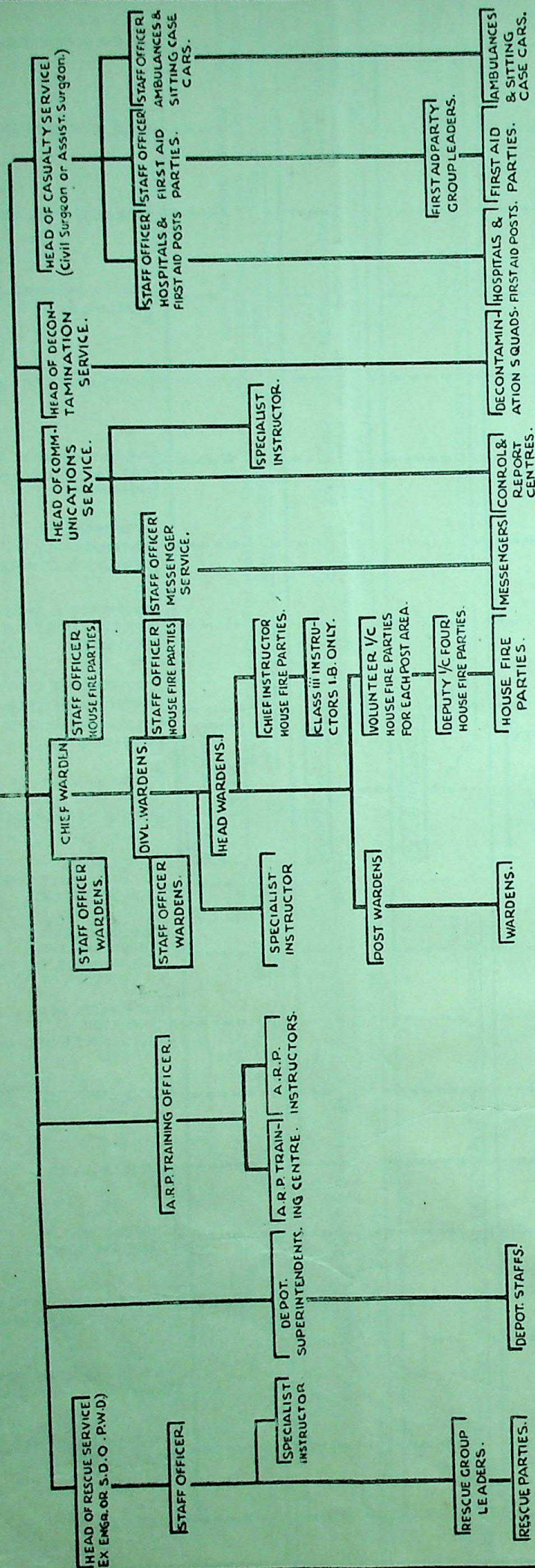
# Civil Defence Organisation in India

[illegible]



## A. R. P. SERVICES IN A TOWN.

## CONTROLLER.



## NOTE :-

1. THE CIVIL DEFENCE DEPARTMENT LETTERS WHICH THIS CHART ILLUSTRATES ARE :-
  - (i) NO. 78/191/41 - A.R.P. OF 26TH. JUNE, 1941 - APPENDICES A - H.
  - (ii) NO. 78/209/41 - A.R.P. OF 5TH. JULY, 1941 - THE ORGANIZATION OF A.R.P. TRAINING.
  - (iii) NO. 78/208/41 - A.R.P. OF 30TH. JULY, 1941 - APPOINTMENT OF PAID A.R.P. OFFICIALS TO ASSIST CONTROLLERS & HEADS OF SERVICES.
  - (iv) NO. 78/254-A/41 - A.R.P. I (C.D.) OF 29TH. DECEMBER, 1941 - STREET FIRE PARTIES.
2. WHEN THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE OR SUBDIVISIONAL OFFICER IS NOT HIMSELF CONTROLLER, HE STILL IS HEAD OF THE WHOLE CIVIL DEFENCE ORGANIZATION BY VIRTUE OF HIS INHERENT POWERS AS THE LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE OF GOVERNMENT.



**ORGANISATION OF CIVIL DEFENCE**

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 91]

8. Control and Report Centres.
9. A. R. P. Wardens' Service.
10. A. R. P. Messenger Service.
11. A. R. P. Depots.
12. House Fire Parties.
13. Training of A. R. P. Services.
14. Air Raid Warning System.
15. Lighting Restrictions.
16. Aids to movement in darkened streets.
17. Issue of manuals and general instructions.
18. Mutual Aid.
19. Chemical Warfare.
20. Unexploded bombs.
21. Identity discs.
22. A. R. P. Services Ordinance, IV of 1941.
23. Essential Services (Maintenance) Ordinance, XI of 1941. (*Police*)
24. Law and order, including Civic Guards.
25. Corpse disposal in early raids if it is considered that Municipal Organisation may not function. (*Publicity*)
26. Propaganda.
27. Civil Defence Information Bureaux, including notification of Casualties.

**COMMERCE AND LABOUR DEPARTMENTS**

1. A. R. P. in factories and public utility concerns.
2. Food supplies.
3. Maintenance of labour.
4. War Injuries Ordinance, VII of 1941.
5. Brick Control.

**LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT**

1. Maintenance of Municipal Roads.
2. Maintenance of Municipal Water Supply.

3. Maintenance of Municipal Sewage and Conservancy.

4. Maintenance of Municipal Lighting.
5. Corpse disposal.
6. Salvage.
7. Clearance of debris.
8. Demolition of unsafe buildings.
9. Fire Brigades.

**MEDICAL DEPARTMENT**

1. Hospitals.
2. Medical Stores.
3. First Aid Posts, static and mobile.
4. First Aid Parties.
5. Ambulances.

**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

1. Epidemics and epidemic hospitals.
2. Water Supply.
3. Sewage and Conservancy.

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

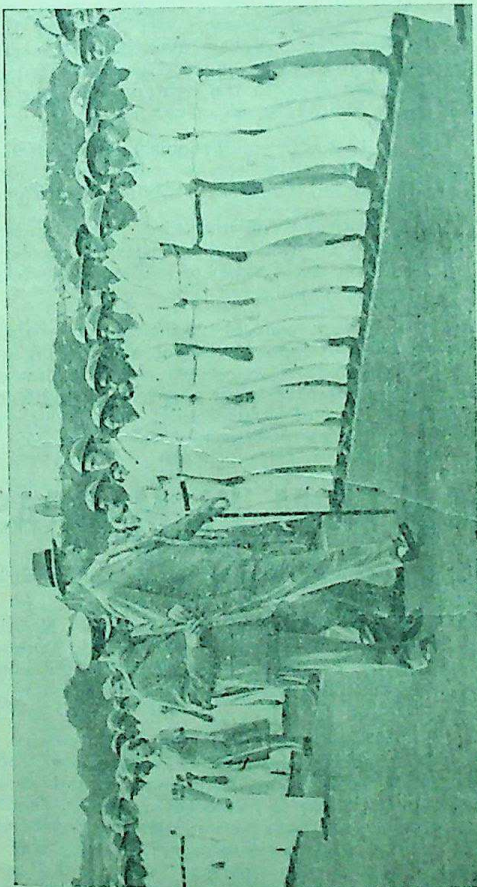
1. Public shelters.
2. Rescue Service.
3. Repairs to slightly damaged buildings.
4. A. R. P. in Government Buildings.
5. Maintenance of Government Roads.
6. Camouflage.
7. Technical advice on engineering and structural problems.
8. Provision of sand for sandbags.
9. Slit trenches.

**VETERINARY DEPARTMENT**

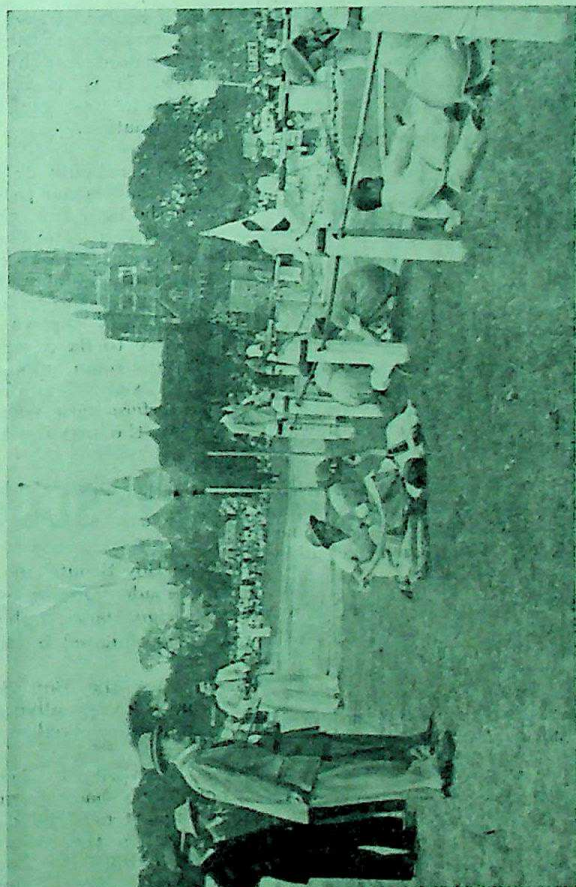
1. Care and control of animals.

**REVENUE DEPARTMENT**

1. Evacuation schemes.
2. Feeding and housing of homeless.



H. E. THE VICEROY, DURING A VISIT TO BOMBAY INSPECTED A.R.P. VOLUNTEERS AT A RALLY



THE VICEROY ALSO WITNESSED A FIRST AID DEMONSTRATION IN BOMBAY



## CIVIL DEFENCE

BLACK-OUT REGULATIONS  
IN DELHI EXPLAINED

**"T**he term 'black-out' is usually applied to conditions when no light is permitted, that is, complete obscuration. For Delhi, however, what is required is a partial black-out, or more correctly, partial obscuration," stated a leaflet issued by the A. R. P. Officer, Delhi, to assist local residents in conforming to regulations during the "black-out" from 6 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15, to 6 a.m. on Saturday, April 18. The leaflet stated:—

It is the duty of everyone to co-operate in observing the light restriction rules and to attend cheerfully to advice or complaints from the wardens or police.

An effective black-out not only prevents enemy airmen from picking out their targets, but, what is even more important, deprives them of a means of checking their position. Although methods of aerial navigation have much improved, airmen are still greatly helped by what they can see on the ground.

**Partial Obscuration**

The term "black-out" is usually applied to conditions when no light is permitted, that is, complete obscuration. For Delhi, however, what is required is a partial black-out or, more correctly partial obscuration. It is recognised that the climatic conditions are such that it is impossible to expect people to block up doors, windows, etc. required for a total black-out; therefore, the object aimed at is so to secure a reduction of light that lights cannot readily be picked out and are practically invisible from a height of 5,000 feet.

A ray of light, no matter how small, is visible at a considerable distance. The light of a match can be seen more than a mile on a clear dark night. The glow of a cigarette is also visible at a much greater height than one would imagine—1,000 feet and more.

**Lighting Restrictions**

The requirement is that a light shall be so screened or placed that:—

- (a) No direct ray, or a ray reflected from a bright surface shall be visible outside.
- (b) No glare shall be thrown upwards outside the building.
- (c) The total light reaching the outside of the building shall not be greater than that thrown on the ground by an ordinary oil lamp held four and a half feet above ground level

The hurricane lamp is a very simple standard for guidance and I advise everybody to try it out in order to see just how much light may be safely thrown outside the building. Incidentally, "outside the building" also includes a courtyard which is open to the sky.

The reduction of light required can be effected with the minimum discomfort and inconvenience and the ways of doing it are:—

- (a) to shade or screen the light itself, or
- (b) to shade or screen doors, windows, ventilators, etc.

If the light is fitted with a semi-opaque shade it is probably sufficient; if in doubt, paint the side of the shade on the door or window side (blue or black oil paint is the best) or attach a wooden or a cardboard frame and that should secure the right amount of opacity.

Opaque shades designed to throw the light downwards are satisfactory. The sides of the shade should be long enough to ensure that no direct rays are thrown on to the walls. No direct ray should be thrown on any surface which will reflect the ray, such as a polished floor, table, a mirror, a light coloured carpet, etc. These shades can be purchased readymade or can be made at home of thick paper (preferably black), cardboard, wood or thick fabric.

**A Good Shade**

It is advisable that the inside of the shade should be painted black or covered with black paper or cloth. A tin with a hole cut in the bottom to fit over the light socket is a good type of shade, especially if fitted with a lid in which a small hole is cut, thus varying the degree of obscuration.

The other method of obtaining a satisfactory black-out is to screen the openings in the walls, that is, the doors, windows, ventilators, etc.

Of course, if they can be kept closed it is a very simple matter to paste thick paper, fix cardboard over the windows or fit wooden frames. It is, however, assumed that all doors, windows, etc., are to be kept open for ventilation.

Upper lights or ventilators are somewhat troublesome to black-out successfully when the light from them is thrown outside the building. The best method is to apply a dark paint (black or blue), thick paper or cardboard. It should then be examined from outside the building and if too much light is still thrown outside it may be necessary to fix a screen, either outside or inside the room, opposite the ventilator. It can be fixed a little distance away so as not to interfere with ventilation but it should overlap the opening to prevent light rays

being thrown outside. This screen may be of wood, cardboard, paper, fabric, etc.

In the case of windows, if thick curtains are in use, this should be sufficient, provided care is taken to see that the curtains are properly arranged and overlap the window opening at the top, bottom and sides. Chicks covered with blue or black cloth of the necessary thickness should be satisfactory. Another method is to use a frame of wood, cardboard, or fabric, which may be suspended from the roof or on a stand close to the window. A very cheap type of frame can be made of bamboo matting or chick, two thicknesses, with paper in between tied or nailed together with split bamboos or wood battens. Provided the light itself is screened to some extent, a frame could also be fixed at any angle either to the top or bottom of the window frame.

**Doors**

Much the same treatment can be applied to doors. A chick covered with dark fabric will do, provided it adequately overlaps the door frame. Care must be taken that it is not raised unnecessarily. If the door does not open back against the wall but opens at right angles to the door frame, a black-out frame could be fixed to the top of the door with hooks (here, also, care being taken to see that it overlaps sufficiently).

Take care of light rays thrown on to a verandah or balcony. If the surface on which the rays are thrown is of a light colour the reflection may be too great.

Light rays thrown inside a courtyard which is covered on all sides but is open at the top must be properly obscured so that no direct ray is thrown outside on to the part of the courtyard which is open to the skies. A shade over the light, a screen or a large piece of wood or cardboard suspended close to the light on the courtyard side should be effective.

Lights in small rooms, such as kitchens, pantries, store rooms and closets, might be painted lightly with a blue or black paint.

Switches of unshaded lights or lights not to be used might be sealed in the off position with a dab of sealing wax sticking plaster or adhesive tape.

Check your black-out arrangements by going outside every night and looking over the house. Carelessness on your part not only endangers your property, your life and the lives of your family, but places your neighbours in danger.

## BOY SCOUTS STOOD FIRM IN MADRAS

**T**he Boy Scouts' motto, "Be prepared," made familiar by usage, has a special significance today, when distance has been annihilated by the modern bomber.

That the Boy Scouts Association in India is keenly alive to this fact is shown by reports received recently from Madras.

On April 13, when five-sevenths of the population had evacuated, the Provincial Headquarters of the Association still flaunted its flag on the Marina, right on the sea front, and 304 Boy Scouts were in readiness for A.R.P. work. Many of these boys are in the Messenger Service. On the day Madras had its first air raid alarm, all the

Messenger Scouts were at their posts within five minutes of the siren.

In the latest issue of the Monthly Bulletin (Boy Scouts' War Work Number) Mr. H. W. Hogg, Deputy Chief Commissioner of the Association, pays these lads a warm tribute.

"As I write, the enemy has come to our shores, and the beloved soil of India has been violated by bombs and shells, but whether it has been in Burma, Ceylon, or the southern coasts of India, Boy Scouts have risen to the occasion, as they will do at every turn this war takes; and I wish to congratulate all concerned, and to say how proud we, at General Headquarters, are of the work our members are doing."





A.R.P. Instructor at the Punjab Health School, Lahore, explains to lady health visitors how bombs are released from an aeroplane

## FOUR MORE CIVIL DEFENCE SCHOOLS TO BE OPENED

In addition to the Civil Defence Staff School and the Civil Defence Instructors School located in Calcutta, the Government of India have decided to open, within the next three months, four more Civil Defence Schools.

A Specialist Instructors School will be located in Nedou's Hotel, Lahore, to which place the Staff School, now in Calcutta, will also move. An Industrial A.R.P. Officers School will replace the Calcutta Staff School. The Civil Defence Instructors School will remain in Calcutta as at present. A second Instructors School and a second Specialist School will be established as soon as the necessary premises and instructors can be obtained.

There being a great demand in all the Provinces for the services of Instructors trained in the Civil Defence Schools at Calcutta, it was found necessary to obtain, through the offices of the Secretary of State, the services of 10 Senior Instructors and 10 Sub-Instructors to form the nucleus of the directing and tutorial staff of the new schools.

Eleven Instructors for the new Civil Defence schools have arrived from the United Kingdom. They include Dr. P. G. Horsburgh, G.M., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., and Mr. J. E. Lee.

Dr. Horsburgh was one of the first recipients of the George Medal which was awarded to him for heroic work during the early days of the great blitz on London.

Mr. Lee served as Civil Defence Regional Officer in the South-Western area of England and later as Deputy Senior Regional Officer in the North-Western region (Leeds). He gained considerable experience in the blitz on Bristol and Plymouth.

Mr. B. Moonje (son of Dr. B. S. Moonje), who has had experience of A.R.P. work in the United Kingdom, is one of the party.

The remaining members of the party have all had blitz experience of varying degrees. They include experts in Rescue Work, First Aid, and Wardens' Duties.

The party visited Calcutta to study Indian A.R.P. conditions, preparatory to being posted to the new schools.

### Direction Of Schools

Lt.-Col. E. K. Yiend, former Director of the Civil Defence Staff School, Calcutta, has been appointed Deputy Director of Schools, Government of India.

The Directors and Deputy Directors of the existing Schools (and those which it is hoped to open in the near future) will now be styled Commandants and Deputy Commandants, Captain T. Marlow being Commandant of the Civil Defence Staff School, and Lt.-Col. H. Pigot Commandant of the Civil Defence Instructors School.

## MANUFACTURE OF DRY BLOOD PLASMA IN INDIA

It is understood that technical difficulties in the preparation of blood plasma for air raid purposes have been overcome. Equipment is being manufactured locally and what is wanted now is a good response from the public to blood donor services in the Provinces and Indian States.

In a number of centres in India blood plasma is already being prepared. Dry blood plasma manufactured abroad is also being supplied to India.

The manufacture of dry blood plasma requires an elaborate unit which has recently been perfected in the United Kingdom and the U.S.A. Two dry blood plasma plants are on order from abroad and an experimental one is under construction in India.

## CIVIL DEFENCE

### QUAKERS OFFER AID FOR AIR RAID VICTIMS

A party of Quakers, members of the Friends' Ambulance Unit in the United Kingdom, is expected to arrive in India in the near future to help in relieving suffering and distress caused by air raids.

The party consists of four men (Messrs. F. G. Alexander, J. R. C. Symonds, I. B. Groves, T. G. Davies and A. G. K. Griffin) and two women (the Misses P. G. B. Bankart and M. J. L. Cottle). Their services were offered voluntarily, and the Friends' Ambulance Unit will meet all expenses, including the cost of passages from the United Kingdom.

When the heavy air raids began on London in September, 1940, the Friends' Ambulance Unit diverted some 150 men from their normal employment as hospital orderlies, and, in addition, recruited about 40 women to assist the Government's A.R.P. Organisation.

These persons undertook medical and social supervision in air raid shelters and care and organisation of the homeless, and assisted in other ways, such as in casualty work, in dealing with small fires, and in running mobile and stationary canteens. While maintaining their own independence, they were associated with central and local authorities and other voluntary bodies doing similar work.

It is understood that the party will work in Calcutta.

Another voluntary offer, which has also been warmly accepted by the Government of India and the Bengal Government, has come from Miss A. R. Catonejo, formerly Secretary of the Indian Village Welfare Association, London.

Miss Catonejo, who has had long experience of social service work in the United Kingdom, particularly in conditions following air raids, has offered her services for similar work in India in the present emergency. Miss Catonejo also is defraying her own expenses.

### A CONCESSION

The Government of India have decided that those Post Office Insurance Fund policy-holders who join the Air Raid Precautions Services, should be charged no extra premium on that account.

Many private insurance companies also are not demanding enhanced premia from members of Air Raid Precautions Services.

### FIGHTING SERVICE PIGEONS

Any member of the general public finding or capturing a pigeon that is in difficulties should examine the bird to ascertain whether it is a Fighting Service Pigeon or other homing pigeon. Such birds carry on one leg a metal identification ring stamped with various particulars. The ring on an Army pigeon shows first the last two numbers of the year the bird was hatched, a broad arrow and a further number.

Whatever the mark the bird should be taken, with the least possible delay and without tampering with any message it may be carrying, to the nearest police station. This is obligatory under the Defence of India Rules.

It is, of course, possible that the bird may be carrying a message, but carrying no means at all of identification. In this case also the bird should be taken to the nearest police station.





PHYSICAL CULTURE EXERCISES LIKE THESE TOUGHEN INDIA'S CIVIL PIONEERS FOR THEIR DUTIES

## DUTIES OF THE CIVIL PIONEER FORCE

**T**he Civil Pioneer Force has been formed in India. In certain Provinces the initial units are well under way.

The Force is intended to carry out such duties as will be required in India in war-time to be performed by an organised and disciplined corps of workmen. These include work duties in conjunction with Civil Defence, construction of roads, buildings or aerodromes, loading and unloading of transport vehicles and work in dock areas. The Force is at present limited to 10,000 persons.

The selection of officers by Provincial Governments has begun and a number of them have been commissioned and are learning their duties. Recruitment and training of Civil Pioneers has also started.

During the preliminary training stress is laid on the physical development of the recruit and the first month is wholly devoted to building up his strength and in helping him to become accustomed to new surroundings. Physical recreation and games play a large part in the preliminary training.

## THE NATIONAL DEFENCE COUNCIL

**T**he fifth session of the National Defence Council opened on the morning of July 7 at Viceroy's House, New Delhi. His Excellency the Viceroy presided. Proceedings began with a statement by Mr. A. W. Ibbotson, Director-General of Civil Defence. The Council was presented with a review of the progress of recruitment to the different A.R.P. services in the provinces, the progress in deliveries of trailer pumps, stirrup pumps and other A.R.P. stores and equipment and their distribution to the provinces. The statement also dealt with the recent strengthening of the central organisation, the opening of new central A.R.P. schools and the arrangements in view for the strengthening of fire-fighting personnel in the provinces. Mr. Ibbotson also gave a detailed description of the air raids which have so far occurred in India.

In the discussion which followed reference was made to the question of parallel organisations, and the Council noted with satisfaction the growing realisation in the

country of the importance of keeping the organisation of civil defence outside politics.

### Air Defence

The Council then proceeded to hear a statement on the Air Force and air defence of India made by the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief.

In the afternoon the Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney, Member, Indians Overseas Department, made a statement about evacuation and evacuees from the war zones. He described the arrangements made for the provision of accommodation, food, clothing, supplies, medical services, free train fares, etc. to the refugees from Burma and outlined also the policy of Government in respect of their maintenance and settlement in employment in this country.

The meeting adjourned for the day.

When the Council reassembled on July 8 at Viceroy's House, H. E. the Viceroy presiding, the Hon'ble Sir Homi Mody, Supply Member, made a statement on the visit of the American Technical

Mission to India, the principal recommendations made by that Mission and the action taken thereon by the Government of India.

In the discussion which followed, the constitution of the War Resources Committee of the Executive Council and the manner in which it was functioning at present were further explained.

The Council then considered a review presented by the Hon'ble Sir Firoz Khan Noon, Labour Member, of further developments since the last session of the Council, in the working of the Technical Training Scheme as also an account of the results up to date of the Bevin Training Scheme.

War Publicity was taken up next, and the Council discussed in some detail, the progress of organisation in the provinces of the National War Front. The last item of the day's proceedings was a statement made by the Hon'ble Mr. N. R. Sarker on the progress of food and fodder production drive in various provinces and States.

The session of the Council concluded on July 9. His Excellency the Viceroy presided.

The Council heard from H. E. the Commander-in-Chief a detailed appreciation of the general war situation. Discussion was then resumed of the statement made to the Council by the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief on Tuesday (July 7). Certain points relating to the recruitment and training of Air Force personnel which remained outstanding were cleared up.

The Hon'ble Mr. N. R. Sarker, Member for Education, Health and Lands, made a statement on the progress of recruitment to the Medical Services of India.

Other subjects dealt with on July 9, included a discussion of the general position of wages in the country in relation to the cost of living.



# "BOMBS TEAR DOWN BRICKS, NOT THE PEOPLE'S SPIRIT"

—Sir M. Zafrulla Khan

**B**ombs only tear down bricks, not the spirit of the population, declared Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan, Agent-General for the Government of India in Chungking, in a broadcast on June 15. Sir Zafrulla said:

In Chungking's streets thronged with people, the blue dress of the civil population and a variety of uniforms predominate. Sedan chairs and rickshaws move in a constant stream and motor buses running on wood oil still provide regular mechanical transport—a good example of the ingenuity of the Chinese in getting over difficulties.

## New Life Movement

Shops lining the streets have a plentiful display of goods made in the many provinces that constitute Free China. There is an appearance of purpose and activity everywhere. Idling extravagance has been vigorously discountenanced by the will of the people, who want to get on with the war aided by the New Life Movement which has helped to introduce laws restricting the number of cafes and restaurants and limiting the number of courses in a meal.

It is true that some areas of the city have been demolished and others scarred and battered by the savage and ruthless bombings which Chungking has endured. But bombs only tear down bricks, not the spirit of the population; so there are new buildings rising and new roads being driven across the ruins. Year after year people have watched their homes demolished; they have seen all their worldly goods turned into worthless scrap, but this has not stopped their way-of-life. The people of Chungking are undeterred by what has happened or by fears of what may happen. There is an all-round air of assurance and determination. The summer months, described lightheartedly as the "bombing season," are anticipated with displeasure as they are likely to bring inconvenience and annoyance, but there is no sense of foreboding of tragedy or terror.

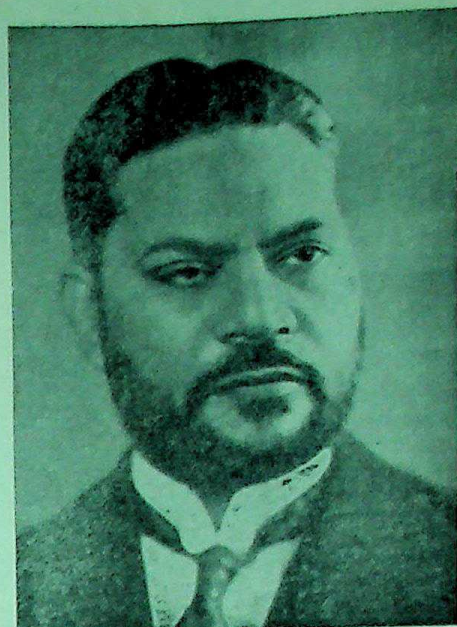
## Determined Calm

The basis of all this calm outlook is preparedness learnt from their own experience. Chungking has now been bombed every summer for three years. Defence armament on land and in the air has been inadequate to prevent raiders from doing much as they wanted. There have been occasions when the city was raided for 72 hours on end; yet Chungking is facing up to its fourth bombing season without fear or flinching, and with a resolute, determined calm.

No one pretends that it is not extremely unpleasant to be bombed, but everyone has learnt that by obeying the instructions of the authorities, who have designed and perfected a complete plan for A.R.P., loss of life and casualties can be reduced to a minimum and panic entirely avoided. They know now that life with its work and duties must go on so long as life itself is left, for with life new homes and industries can be created. This victory morale on the civilian front has been proved here as in Britain to be a real victory, one which will pave the way for the final triumph of the armed forces.

Chungking was once a peaceful provincial city with some 90,000 inhabitants. Now it has half a million people and is virtually the power house of the nation. Through adversity Chungking and its citizens have achieved greatness; never can time rob the city of the honour that is its due.

For the people of India the lesson of Chungking is that they should not wait until bombs begin to fall before they try to find out what is expected; they should at once make themselves acquainted with instructions from the responsible authorities and co-operate in practices and rehearsals so as to be ready to do what is expected of them if and when the time should come. Thus they would be better prepared for the emergency, and if they



THE HON'BLE SIR MUHAMMAD ZAFRULLA KHAN, K.C.S.I., BARRISTER-AT-LAW

are so prepared I am sure that they will in no way fall short of the glowing example set by the people of Chungking and London.

## AWARDS FOR HEROISM IN BURMA

**F**urther decorations in the field for heroism during the Battle of Burma are now announced. They are:

**D. S. O.**—Captain (T/Major) J. A. Bonham-Carter, 2nd Bn., Royal Tank Regiment.

**Bar to M. C.**—Lt. (T/Capt.) R. Titlestad, 2nd Bn., Royal Tank Regiment.

**M. C.**—Lt. John Parry, 7th Queen's Own Hussars.

**D. C. M.**—110964 Cpl. R. Barber, 2nd Bn., Royal Tank Regiment.

**M. M.**—929114 Gunner C. Saunders, 414 Battery, Royal Horse Artillery. 4625825 Pte. Rapps, West Yorkshire Regiment.

Major Bonham-Carter won his decoration while assisting the Chinese in their attack on Twingon, Central Burma, which was intended to relieve pressure on the Burma Division. When ordered to send a troop with a platoon of West Yorks to create a diversion he ran nearly a mile over country covered by enemy machine-gun fire to make most valuable contact with the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.

At Yenangyaung, Capt. R. Titlestad, who was second in command of his squadron, was constantly outside his tank in liaison with infantry commanders and securing information from forward infantry in spite of shelling, machine-gun fire and much sniping. He killed the crew of an enemy field gun and possibly destroyed the gun. Several times he acted as "spotter" for the gunners and on one occasion actually directed the fire of guns sited on the north of the Pin Chaung.

### "Molotov Cocktail"

Lt. John Parry, who receives the M.C., was leading his troop south of Pegu when he encountered a road block which he at once charged and demolished. While passing through, a "Molotov Cocktail" was thrown at the tank, which caught fire

both inside and outside. With his crew engaging the enemy, Lt. Parry extinguished the blaze. Later, at Shwedaung, he cleared six road blocks, most of which were covered by mortar, machine-gun, and anti-tank fire. Once he had to back his tank and ram a block for 10 minutes under continuous fire before he was able to force a passage through which the striking force of the 17th Indian Division was able to pass.

Cpl. Barber won his D. C. M. for a number of brave and inspiring deeds between April 14 and 19. Once, under heavy and accurate shell fire, and although wounded in the shoulder, he used his tank to tow out a number of lorries and guns stuck in a river crossing, himself leaving the tank to attach the tow rope. Later, when his tank received three direct hits and had to be abandoned, he stood by seeing his crew safely out although the tank received another direct hit at that time. Although suffering from shock and deafness, he subsequently took over command of another tank and carried out most valuable work under fire.

### At Shwedaung

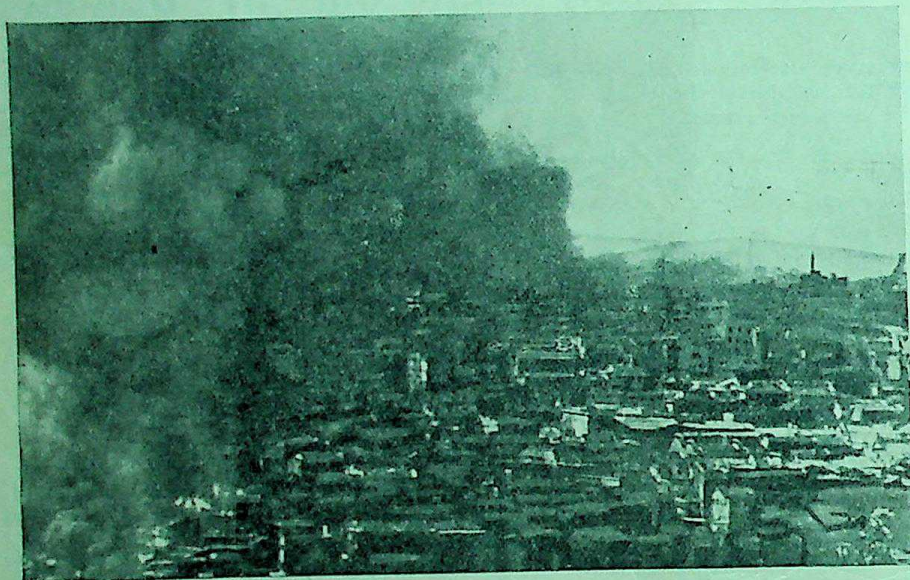
It was at Shwedaung on March 30 that Gunner Saunders earned the Military Medal. In the village were enemy snipers and machine-gunners. Having on his own initiative collected a number of grenades, Gunner Saunders went through the streets flinging them in likely places. Under intense machine-gun fire he also collected together some infantrymen and with them cleared away wrecked vehicles which were blocking the road.

Again at Shwedaung, Pte. Rapps, who also won the M. M., made a single-handed bayonet charge on an enemy machine-gun post which had opened fire on his platoon and in which were at least 12 Japs. He had shot or bayoneted five of them when he was wounded while parrying a bayonet thrust. When his comrades arrived on the scene and disposed of the remainder of the enemy, Pte. Rapps was trying to strangle the man who had wounded him.





"Is this Japan's Greater Asia?" This little girl looks around for the house which was her home. The man in the right hand corner is trying to gather his salvaged belongings



The much-battered but indomitable war-time capital of China. Bombed and plastered it still stands up, a living symbol of China's will to fight

## FIVE YEARS OF WAR IN CHINA

**G**eneralissimo Chiang Kai-shek has promised that the next bearer of peace proposals to him from the Japanese shall be executed. Therein lies the spirit of Chinese resistance to Japan. "There shall be no peace until every Japanese soldier is driven from Chinese soil"—thus the great leader of the Chinese nation spoke on the eve of the sixth year of war.

With the start of the "special undeclared" Sino-Japanese war in 1937, the Japanese succeeded in capturing the more eastern and northerly portions of China. The cities of Peiping, Tientsin, Shanghai and Nanking had fallen into Japanese hands by December of the same year. The next year found the southerly and coastal

towns occupied by the enemy. While these facts take only seconds to record on paper, they meant months of hard fighting. The Chinese, fighting against an enemy superior in numbers and equipment, were intensely bitter in their hatred of the enemy.

### First Peace Overture

After the taking of the capital, Nanking, on December 13, 1937, the Japanese made their first peace overture—which was rejected in no uncertain terms. The excesses of the Japanese soldiers in places like Nanking and others had damned them for ever in Chinese eyes. They must all be driven back....back to their own volcanic island.

Since the taking of Canton in October, 1938, the Japanese advance in China has, in all its essentials, been negligible. A considerable portion of the country is technically in Japanese hands, but it must be remembered that in all the occupied territory the Japanese have complete control only of the main towns and railways. The rest is highly vulnerable to guerilla activity—and in this particular sphere of warfare the Chinese are masters. Lines of communication, stretched out to their limit, have been attacked, railway lines torn up and trains dynamited, trucks and supply carts have been ambushed and captured.

Chinese military tactics to date have been—never fight a decisive battle if the enemy has superior equipment; the policy has been one of seeking out and finding the enemy's weak spots and concentrating all effort in that direction, and when retreat is necessary—retreat as slow as possible. The time soon comes when the enemy has to concentrate on another part of the front; then Chinese forces attack the sector that has been weakened. This accounts for the retaking of towns that were captured.

### Japs Bugged Down

As the result of these tactics the enemy has been completely bogged down, and only with great difficulty has he been able to advance. Meanwhile, the Chinese have had time to re-equip and strengthen themselves. Chinese fighting strength today is greater than it was at the beginning of the war. Armies in training are being equipped with the best type of weapons that the United Nations have to offer.

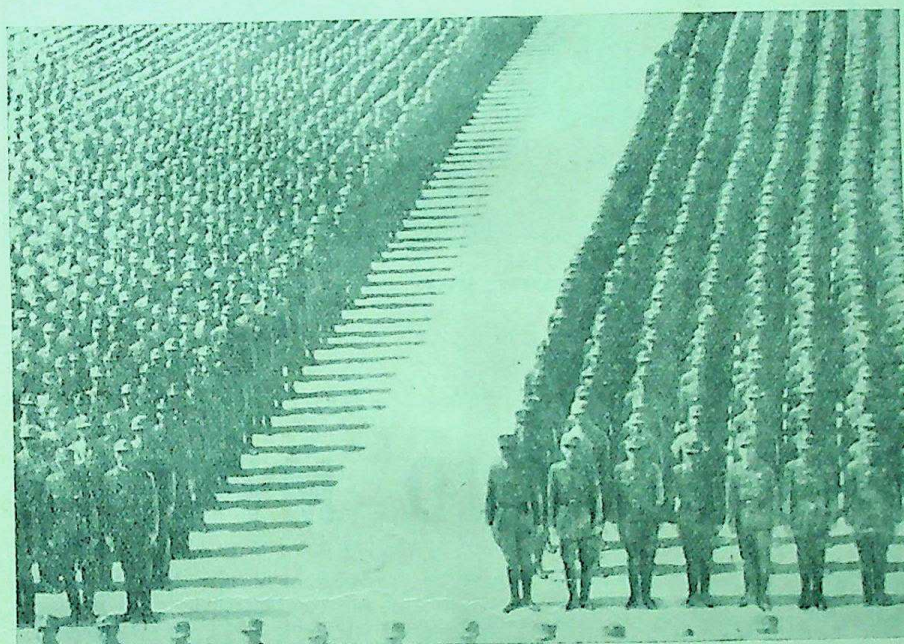
For five years China has struggled alone. The help she received took various forms, but the struggle, the fighting, the blood, tears, toil and sweat were borne by the Chinese people themselves. Aid given to her by the United Nations prior to the declaration of war in December, 1941, took the form of loans and munitions, and war materials supplied under the Lease-Lend Act. China herself has built up a very considerable war industry, and is able completely to equip her armies with small arms and ammunition.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1942





DRILLED AND IN STEP THEY MARCH, THE YOUNG WOMEN OF MODERN CHINA



SOLDIERS IN THE ARMY OF MARSHAL CHIANG KAI-SHEK, DEFENDERS OF THE REPUBLIC

As the enemy had control of all China's ports it was necessary to take in supplies by other means. The first and most famous supply route was the Burma Road. This road was finally and definitely closed to the Allies by the Japanese occupation of Burma. There is another highway into China from India—a route more northerly than the Burma Road, and more than twice as long; nevertheless, it does function and is providing China with some of the materials she so urgently needs. Other land routes are through Tibet and Samarkand. Last year 35,000 tons of goods went into China from Russia, via the Chinese provinces of Kansu and Shensi. The route that is proving most effective is by air. Huge American Army transport planes carry as much as seven tons of goods to Kunming from India in only a few hours.

On the declaration of war by the United States and Britain against Japan in December, 1941, China unhesitatingly

placed her armies at the disposal of the United Nations. The treacherous Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour and Malaya had the result of isolating Hongkong. In spite of the difficulties and dangers of such a manoeuvre, Chinese forces immediately moved towards Hongkong with the hope of contacting and aiding the Allied troops stationed there. Again, during the campaign in Burma, Chinese forces fought side by side with British and Indian troops.

#### American Volunteer Group

Another phase of the Sino-Japanese war was the appearance in 1940 of the American Volunteer Group—popularly known as the "A.V.G.'s." These "Flying Tigers" are today a part of the United States Army and Air Force in India. While they were defending the Burma Road they held the enviable record of having shot down or destroyed 22 Japanese planes to each one of their own.

In raids on Chinese open cities, the Japanese have killed approximately 70,000 civilians and have wounded another 100,000. 1939 was the worst year, there being 2,613 raids which killed 28,184 and wounded 31,094. The first raids on Chungking were on May 3 and 4, 1939, in which the killed and wounded totalled 10,000. In an anniversary raid two years later, the Japanese used the same number of aircraft, but only five persons were killed. In the two years' interval Chungking had built up a system of underground shelters dug deep into the hills, which today make Chungking one of the safest capital cities in the world, but at the same time one of the most uncomfortable.

The China of the early 20th century is no more. Today China is in the forefront of the struggle against the aggressor nations. She has one leader, one government and one motive force, one ambition—to drive the Japanese out of China. Then will come the period of reconstruction.

## SINEWS OF WAR FOR INDIA'S GROWING ARMY

The report of work accomplished in one war-time ordnance factory "somewhere in India" for last year is an index of the great output in these factories which are today supplying the sinews of war for India's growing army.

Compared with the previous year (1940-41), says the report, growth has been 400 per cent in terms of labour employed, and 40 separate orders involving some 10,00,000 units were completed during the year and 46 further orders were on the books before the close of the official year.

The report also refers to the ingenuity shown by technicians engaged in this factory and in regard to one vital plant which was unprocureable except from abroad, an original design was evolved and the plant manufactured from material and equipment found within the workshop.

This factory is now planning to undertake new projects in the near future.





INDIANS AND NEW ZEALANDERS BUILD RAILWAYS IN THE WESTERN DESERT. SPIKES ARE HAMMERED INTO SLEEPERS

### 3. FAMOUS INDIAN REGIMENTS—

By Sir Patrick Cadell

# INDIAN SAPPERS AND MINERS

**W**hen the Italians, famous for their engineering skill, were laying minefields to cover their precipitous retreat during General Wavell's campaign in the Middle East, Indian Sappers were more than a match for them. Their job was to locate the minefields and render them harmless, so that the pursuit should not be retarded, nor the enemy given time to prepare fresh positions. On several occasions the Sappers cleared the minefields so rapidly that they actually caught up with the enemy.

It was during this time that a young Indian officer, 2nd Lieut. (now Captain) Premindra Singh Bhagat, of the Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners, won the Victoria Cross for "a long continued feat of sheer, cold courage" as his Commanding Officer described it.

He was in command of a section of a field company, Sappers and Miners, detailed to accompany the leading mobile troops to clear the road and adjacent areas of mines. For a period of four days and over a distance of 55 miles, this officer in the leading carrier led the column. He detected and supervised the clearing of 15 minefields. Speed being essential, he worked from dawn to dusk each day.

Twice 2nd Lieut. Bhagat was blown up, and once ambushed; many of his men were killed or wounded. After 48 hours of arduous and perilous work he was offered relief. He begged to be allowed to remain as he had learned the Italian system and felt that valuable time would be lost while the relieving officer acquired the technique.

#### Collapsed From Exhaustion

So for another two days he continued the work till he collapsed from exhaustion and shock, with one ear drum punctured by an explosion.

British officers in the Indian Army have won the Victoria Cross on many occasions, and so, during the Great War, had several Indian officers with Viceroy's Commissions, and Indian other ranks. But 2nd Lieutenant Bhagat is the first King's Commissioned Indian Officer to receive this great honour and richly he deserved it.

The Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners also greatly distinguished themselves in Syria. In the struggle to relieve the little garrison of Mezza an Infantry carrier platoon blasted its way to the village through the fire of machine-guns and tanks. The Infantry officers having become casualties, Lieutenant C. C. Fraser of the Sappers and Miners, led

the attack, though wounded. It was too late to save the garrison, which had been overcome by superior numbers and armament, but it led to the recapture of the village.

It took many years for the true value of the engineering branch of the Indian Army—or the British Army either, for that matter—to be appreciated. The officers had to wait years for combatant rank, while the men were engaged as unarmed Pioneers who were discharged when the campaign was over.

The Pioneers in India were always good with pick and shovel, but gradually they were armed and put on a permanent basis. These Pioneers were the foundation on which the three famous Corps of Sappers and Miners, one for each Presidency Army, were formed.

#### Seringapatam Capture Recalled

Senior is the Madras Corps, going aback to a body of pioneers raised in 1780, though the Bombay Corps can trace its descent from a Pioneer Company formed three years earlier. The Madras and Bombay Pioneers shared in the capture of Seringapatam while those of Madras marched with Wellesley to Assaye and Argaum, the Bombay Pioneers joining them in the latter battle.





AMERICAN MECHANICAL EXCAVATORS ARE USED FOR BUILDING THE DESERT RAILWAY

As the work of the Engineers became more scientific, companies of Sappers and Miners were formed, absorbing the Pioneers. The capture of forts was a prominent but not an easy part of their work. They had to blow up the gates as was the case at Ghuznee and Delhi; and, when a breach in the walls had been made, it was a point of honour for the engineer officers to accompany the storming parties while their men carried the scaling ladders.

In open warfare also they took their share. Thus the Madras Sappers were on the right of the line at Meeanee, while the half company of Bombay Sappers were the last to leave the shattered line at Maiwand, leaving more than half their number on the field.

Throughout the 19th century, the three Corps were constantly employed, and it may be noted that, while most of the Madras

regiments lost their fighting value through disuse, the Madras Sappers, employed in almost every campaign, maintained their high name and earned the praise of such Generals as Wolseley and Roberts.

#### In The Last War

The Great War afforded the Sappers and Miners a great variety of scientific employment. On one occasion they were



RAILS ARE BEING PLACED ON THE SLEEPERS BY INDIANS AND NEW ZEALANDERS IN THE WESTERN DESERT

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1942



again used as infantry. This was when two companies of the Bombay Sappers and Miners were called on to save a desperate situation at Neuve Chappelle, having all their officers and more than a third of their men struck down. The Bombay Corps afterwards received the distinction of being called Royal.

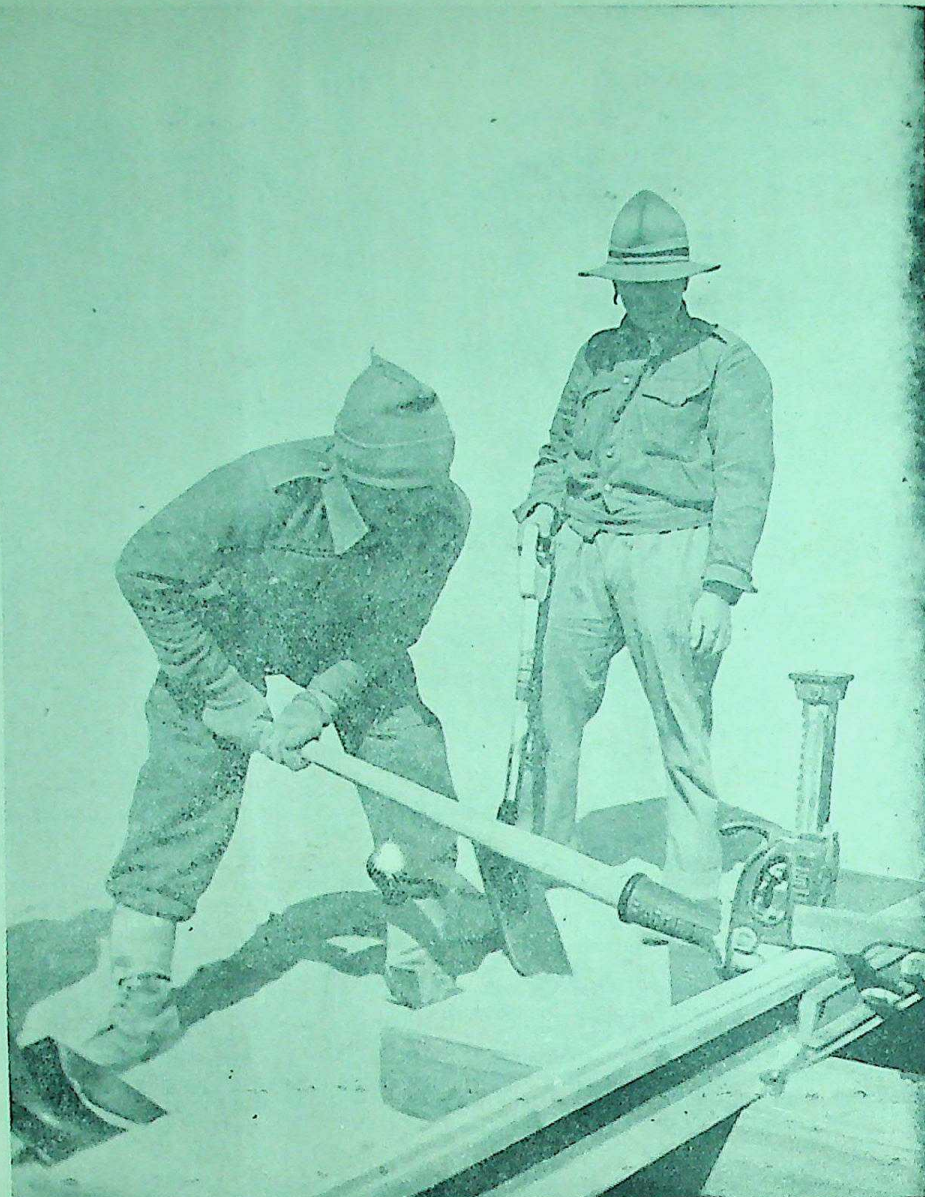
In the period that followed the war, the Indian Sappers and Miners again received an accession of strength from the Pioneers. Several of the oldest Infantry Regiments of the Madras and Bombay Armies had been made Pioneers and trained to pick and shovel as well as to fight as infantry. There were also three Sikh battalions which had been Pioneers from their first creation.

Several of these Pioneer battalions did good service in the four years' war, especially in France and Mesopotamia. After the war, however, the belief that warfare was becoming too specialised for a man to be both a rifleman and a field engineer, coupled with the demand for restricting military expenditure, led to the disbandment of the Pioneer Units. Many of their men were drafted to the Sappers and Miners, who were themselves in part the descendants of the early Pioneers. No Corps has won greater fame on the battlefields of North Africa, nor added so grandly to its traditions.

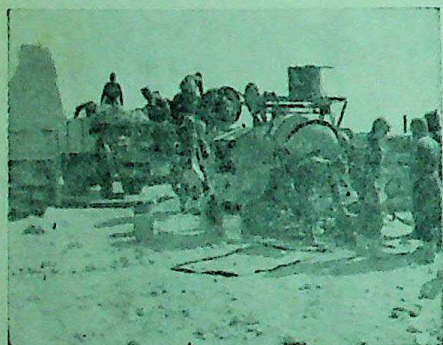
### BILLETING SYSTEM

The arrival in India of considerable reinforcements for the Defence Services and the influx of refugees from the Far East have contributed to an acute shortage of accommodation. It has, therefore, been found necessary to introduce a new Rule, under the Defence of India Act, to provide the necessary powers to enable a billeting system to be introduced in any area in which this is found to be necessary.

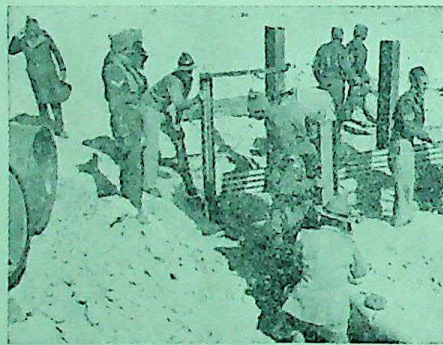
Every effort will be made to ensure that persons of status, religion or caste, other than those of the occupier of a house, are not billeted on the latter without his or her consent.



INDIAN AND NEW ZEALANDER WORK TOGETHER ON THE DESERT RAILWAY



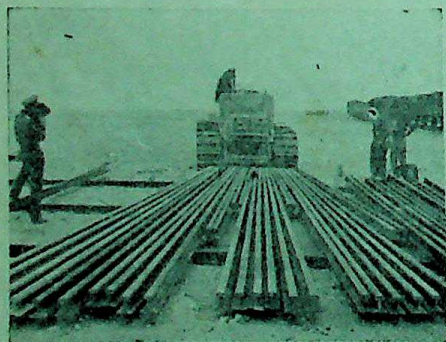
THIS IS THE CONCRETE MIXER



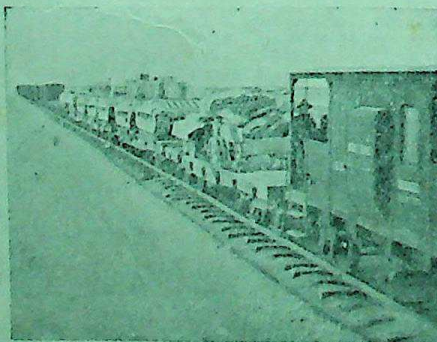
BUILDING A RAILWAY STATION



THE BRICKLAYERS ARE AT WORK



RAILS ARE HAULED BY CATERPILLAR



DESERT RAILWAY HELPS IN TANK RECOVERY



NEW ZEALANDERS & INDIANS STOP FOR TEA





DUAL CONTROL—ENGLISH AND INDIAN PILOTS AT THE WHEEL OF THEIR MULTI-ENGINE BOMBER

accurate anti-aircraft fire. Two or three miles from the convoy his port engine caught fire. Had he immediately turned from home, the chances would be that the attack would have failed altogether. He flew on, however, leading his section, and, as he closed in on the convoy, his remaining engine also caught fire and stopped. But his speed was enough to carry him a short distance to the ships. He dropped his bombs on the target, and, after passing over the convoy, he made a good landing on the sea.

Back in England again, the Squadron did most useful work in a daylight attack on objectives near Cologne on August 12, when the Squadron Leader led his section to a power house and effectively bombed it.

So the story of the "United Provinces" goes on up to the present day. German power houses, shipyards, docks, convoys and aerodromes have all felt the weight of its bombs. In its attacks there have been many instances of incredible bravery and of good fortune that goes with courage. The Squadron's present commanding officer is a D. F. C. who has been on 74 operational flights against the enemy.

On October 6, last year, the King-Emperor visited the Squadron and from his conversation it was plain that he was well aware of its splendid record. All air crews were presented to His Majesty, who lunched in the Officer's Mess. The spirit and courage of the Squadron have been a constant example throughout the bomber group to which they belong. In a period of less than 18 months four D.S.O.s, 15 D.F.C.s and 20 D.F.M.s have been won in this Squadron, which, thanks to the generosity of the people of the United Provinces, is equipped with the world-famous Blenheim bombers.

## R.A.F. PLANE RESCUES STRANDED TROOPS

**T**he story of how the Royal Air Force dropped food, money and supplies to a small party of the Burma Army and later brought all the personnel back to safety under extremely hazardous conditions can now be told.

In the last days of May, news was received that the party was isolated at a lone post not far from the Burma-China-Tibet frontier. Fortunately the party had a wireless set. The first message received at the bases in India said, "We are stranded. No funds, very little food. Send rupees" (to buy local supplies). The message also asked that plaster of paris and bandages should be sent and it later transpired that a Colonel was suffering from a broken leg. Another message said, "Please drop cigarettes. Thanks!"

### Most Difficult Task

At once the Royal Air Force got busy but the task was one of the most difficult of its kind they had undertaken. The Group Captain who directed the operations and who himself flew one of the fighter escort aircraft, said vast layers of cumulous clouds were encountered and "dense, grizzly areas of jungle" had to be crossed. Some days had to be spent on reconnoitring the area surrounding the Fort. Meanwhile the Garrison were making a landing strip.

A day or two later the stranded party wirelessed: "Cash position critical. We have not enough to stay nor enough to get out" (to walk).

"Every effort is being made to reach you with everything requested," replied

the R.A.F., and in the face of big odds the R.A.F. succeeded. First food, cigarettes, medical supplies and cash were dropped from a troop-carrying aircraft. Boots and socks asked for by the stranded troops were also dropped. The difficulties which had to be overcome can be judged when it is stated that it was at the third attempt of the day that the supplies fell plumb on the football field. At the same time a message was dropped saying that an aircraft would land as soon as the weather was good enough.

"Stores received safely. Very many thanks. Try for landing," wirelessed the stranded party.

The arrival of the stores from the air created a profound impression among the local population and this was enhanced when, next day, a plane landed on the strip and picked up the Colonel with the broken leg. The same day a troop transport aircraft landed and brought out 23 of the personnel. The take-off from the improvised landing strip was fraught with much difficulty and the aircraft reached its base in the dark. Later, the remainder of the personnel were evacuated.

### A "First Class Show"

"The two Squadrons concerned in the job, and the Pilot of the first plane all deserve the highest praise for their efforts and conduct under difficult circumstances," commented a high R.A.F. Officer. "They had a harassing time weighing up the risks which had to be taken over this extremely dangerous country and the urgency of the

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 123]



# THE EASTERN FRONT





# WE ARE CARRYING THE ATTACK TO THE ENEMY

—MAJOR-GENERAL BRERETON

**M**ajor-General Lewis Hyde Brereton, commanding the United States Army Air Forces in India, discussed the types of planes used by the United States in an interview broadcast by All India Radio on June 24. Major-General Brereton said:

"I am very glad to give what information I can about our Air Forces. You know, of course, that we cannot give details that might be of military value to the enemy. We propose to inform him of what our planes can and will do in actual operations rather than by words.

"The types of planes used vary according to the special purpose for which the planes have been designed. One type of plane may be used for different missions. Our heavy bombers here have been effective in destroying enemy air and shipping installations, while the British have found another type particularly effective in convoy protection. Then there are the medium bombers, the light, or dive-bombers, and the fighter planes. These are our major combat types. We also operate observation squadrons in several classifications.

## Heavy And Medium Bombers

"Our heavy bomber is a plane of the four-engine type. It is a large plane with a very big power plant. It is designed for heavy-scale and long-range bombing. It actually does have a range of many hundreds of miles, and is able to operate in the stratosphere. This, of course, makes it possible for our heavy bombers to go above the level of ordinary anti-aircraft fire, and also above the level where enemy fighter planes can operate against us successfully. Usually it carries a combat crew of from seven to nine men and several tons of bombs.

"Up to the present our best known heavy bomber in India is the Flying Fortress, but the Army Air Force has others conforming to this general function. Our experience has shown that these heavy bombers stand up most successfully in combat with the fighter planes of the enemy. They have sufficient fire power to protect their formation from mass attacks of the best enemy fighter planes.

"The medium bomber is a twin-engine plane that can operate at high speed with an effective bomb load. The medium bomber has proved itself adaptable to a variety of conditions. American medium bombers early came to attention during the present war when they were adopted by the Coastal Command in Great Britain for the important land-based coastal operations around the British Isles. Recently, other American medium bombers have had outstanding successes in battle operations. It was a group of medium bombers that successfully attacked Tokyo on April 18. Medium bombers were also used by General Royce in his spectacular two-day raid on the Japanese positions in the Philippines. One type of light bomber is used by our forces for dive-bombing; another for torpedo attack.

## Two Types Of Fighters

"Our fighter planes may be divided into two classifications. First, we have the pursuit ships, called fighter-pursuits. They are usually single-engine ships, and are small, fast, and with great fire power. Naturally, they are armed with the best offensive

weapons, and their pilots receive intensive training in marksmanship. Pursuit planes have a variety of functions. They have a considerable range, and so are frequently used as a protective cover for bombardment formations when enemy opposition is to be expected. They are used in ground attack and in defensive patrol work when their mission is to seek and destroy the planes of the enemy.

"The other type of fighter plane, however, is especially designed for interception operations. This is what we call the pursuit interceptor. It may be a single-engine or a twin-engine plane. Its outstanding characteristic is its very rapid rate of climb. It is designed in that way, so that in the event of a reported attack it can climb to high altitudes rapidly and intercept, as its name suggests, an air force of the enemy. The interceptors also have a high speed and great fire power.

## Planes Go Out In Force

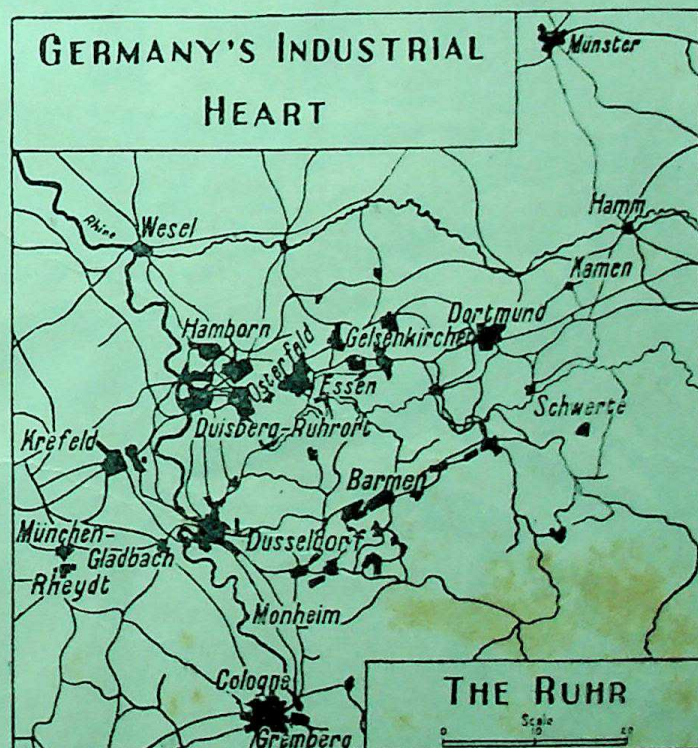
"But, actually, planes rarely operate singly, and it is usual that some particular mission is assigned to a particular force. Such a force may employ one type or represent co-ordination of several types. A mission might be the bombardment of a specific enemy objective. We had a good example of that recently. To our Command, as an independent Air Force, there was assigned the specific mission of attacking enemy air concentrations in Rangoon. We knew that the Japanese had in Rangoon a very considerable force of bombing planes. Our job was to destroy that concentration. We were very happy to be able to report



Major-General L. H. Brereton

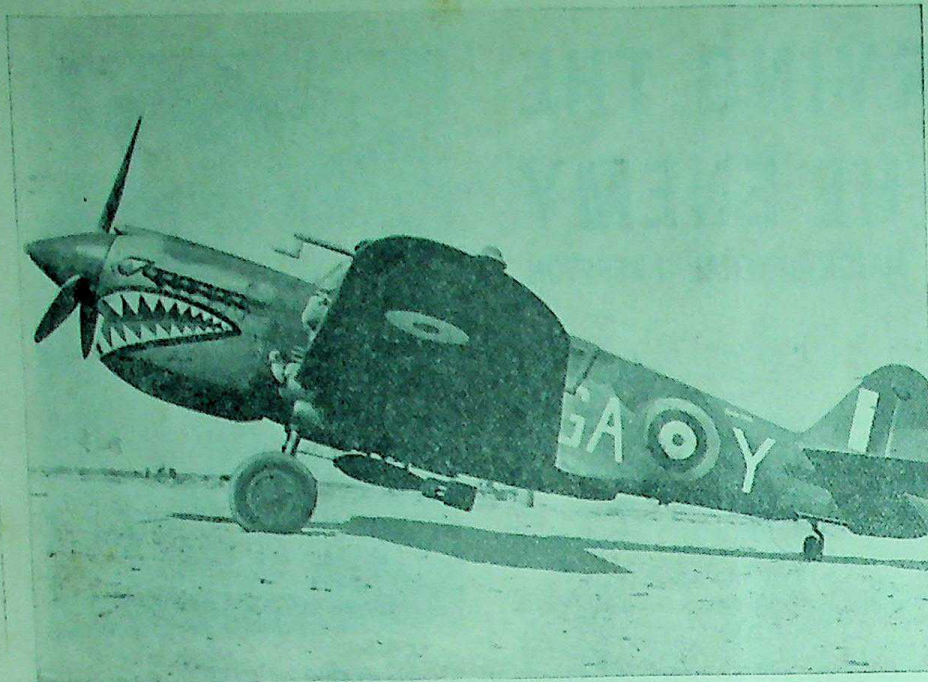
that we had, in a single attack on Rangoon, destroyed 40 of these bombers on the ground and damaged another 25. This is an example of an effective bombing mission of an Air Force.

"Now, in offensive ground operations, an air force might also have as its specific assignment, assistance to all ground operations. Such co-ordination would consist of several phases. A preliminary mission would be that of reconnaissance observation through which our ground forces would learn the disposition of the enemy. Beyond that, air support may consist of active fighting support, such as attack on troops, bombardment of tanks and other vehicles, and bombardment and attack on the enemy's lines of communication."

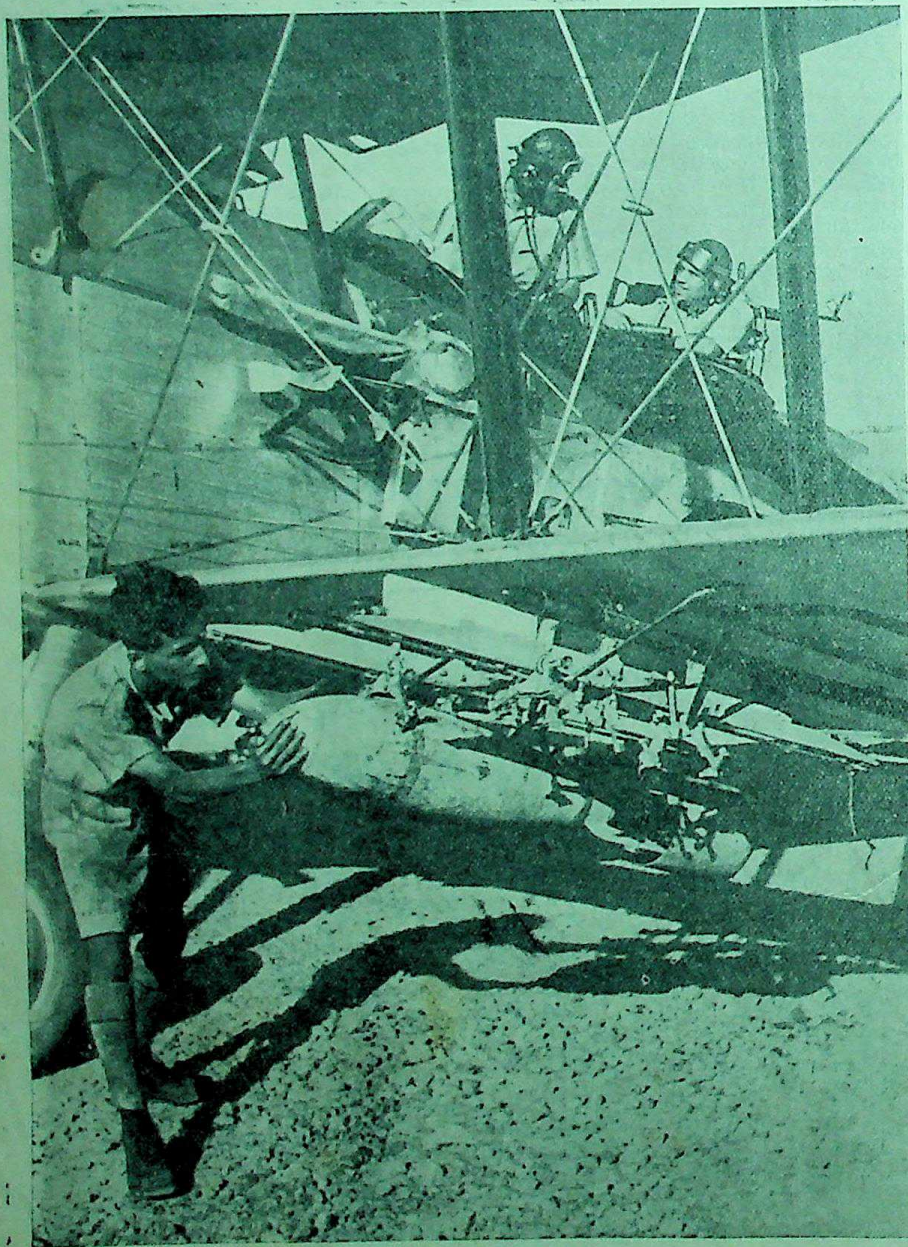


The Royal Air Force is bombing Germany's industrial heart while the Indian Air Force is pounding Japanese targets in Burma and elsewhere





The U.S. Kitty-bomber, highly successful in the N. African war theatre, dives at terrific speed on enemy columns and releases its bombs at low level. Climbing rapidly up again it resumes its original role as a fighter. Enterprising pilot has painted his machine to resemble a pre-historic animal



BOMBS LIKE THIS HAVE BEEN USED TO POUND JAP TARGETS BY THE I.A.F.

After referring to aircraft support for land operations, Maj.-Gen. Brereton explained the role of land-based air support for naval surface operations. He said: "Land-based planes, within their radius of operation, may give excellent protection to convoys, both defensively and offensively. Pursuit planes can protect our ships at sea by intercepting attacks by enemy bombers. Recently we have had some excellent examples of land-based planes playing an important part in naval operations. The losses inflicted on the Japanese both in the Coral Sea engagement and about Midway Island and the Aleutians can be attributed to the successful co-ordination of land-based planes of the Army with the carrier-based and water-based planes of the Navy."

Discussing recent improvements in the quality of American aircraft and in American production, Maj.-Gen. Brereton said:

"It is natural that as operations reveal a 'bug' in design, or the opportunity to improve performance by minor changes, refinements of aircraft and advances take place. In recent years there has been a tremendous increase in the speed of our planes, and they are able to operate at much higher altitudes. In addition, we have made substantial increases in fire power, in protective armour of the planes, self-sealing fuel tanks, and many other improvements."

"On the production side, it is a matter of common knowledge, of course, that the tremendous industrial organisation of the United States has been put into the business of turning out aircraft. We may say that the increase in production is more than satisfactory, and that the very high goal, set by the President for this year, of 60,000 planes, seems likely to be surpassed."

#### Role Of Ground Forces

"But I should like to point out that while I have been talking about air power, it must be kept in mind that an air force alone has yet to win a war. Ground forces are at least of equal importance. What must be remembered is the interdependence of all our military forces. Ground forces must protect the bases from which planes operate. We rely upon them for that. On the other hand, ground forces look to us for support in their operations, as I have described. The air force must depend on the ground forces, not merely to protect its existing bases, but to advance and seize the bases of the enemy and thus move forward air striking power."

"There are other ways in which our expanding air strength may shorten the war. One of the most interesting developments is the growing importance of the air force in logistics, that is, in the transport of troops and supplies. We are now using airplanes to carry materials and personnel from place to place. Our ability to do this in the course of the war is a natural outgrowth of American leadership in the development of air transport in times of peace. American-built planes were operating all over the world in civil transport long before this war broke out. We have been able to adapt that leadership in civil transport to the problems of the military effort."

#### Just Getting Into Stride

"There is no reason not to be confident. From our point of view we are just getting in stride. We know we have this tremendous reservoir of production behind us. We know that we have our united people supporting us to their full capacity, we know we can count on the co-ordinated support of all the United Nations. We are confident that plane for plane, and man for man, our forces are superior to those of the enemy. With quantitative as well as qualitative superiority, on behalf of my own Command, the Tenth Air Force, I am happy to say that we are carrying the attack to the enemy, and we shall continue to do that until the enemy has been overwhelmed."



# MESSAGES AND GREETINGS

## UNITED NATIONS DAY CELEBRATIONS

Here are the messages exchanged between General Sir Archibald Wavell and Marshal Chiang Kai-shek on the occasion of the United Nations Day celebrations:

**From General Sir Archibald Wavell To Marshal Chiang Kai-shek:—**

I would like to convey through Your Excellency greetings of the fighting forces in the India Command to the Armies of China on the occasion of the United Nations Day. It is to all of us a source of great satisfaction that we are fighting together in defence of the cause for which your armies and your people have battled so gallantly and so long against the ambitions of Japan.

Our brotherhood of arms has been cemented by the bitter struggle in Burma, and we look forward to the day when we shall reverse our initial failures in the Far East and again fight side by side with Chinese forces, this time to a victorious end.

**The Marshal's Reply**

We are very much thrilled by your telegram received amidst hearty celebration of United Nations Day in which the whole

Chinese Nation and Army have joined. Allow me on behalf of the Army and myself to express our gratitude for this demonstration of noble friendship of comrades in arms. May we hope that the cordiality and strength of our close co-operation will, through being directed against a common enemy, and driven towards the same objective, become even brighter to the end.

That common victory will be achieved. I am confident of and am looking forward to the day when the Allied armies in India, which being under your gallant leadership are unrivalled, will give the Japanese the necessary chastisement.

### MR. CHURCHILL'S MESSAGE

In a message on United Nations Day, Mr. Churchill said: "In a proclamation to the people of the United States of America our great friend, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, has reminded them that for many years it has been the American custom to set aside June 14, in honour of their flag, the emblem of their freedom, their strength and their unity as an inde-

pendent nation under God. He has told them that as a nation they are fighting not alone but shoulder to shoulder with the valiant peoples of the United Nations, the massed angered forces of common humanity; and he has asked them that on their flag day, June 14, they should honour not only their own colours but also the flags and through the flags the people of the United Nations.

"Outside the United Kingdom these are peoples whose names today make up that great roll of honour: The United States of America, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, China, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Free France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Poland, the Union of South Africa, and Yugoslavia.

"I join my acquiescence to his in honouring today the forces of the United Nations. Let us pay this tribute to the valour and sacrifice of those who have fallen and to the courage and endurance of those who fight today. Let us remember everyone—man, woman and child—who in the oppressed and tortured countries of the world wait for the day of liberation that is coming.

"In this ceremony we pledge to each other not merely to support and succour till victory comes but that wider understanding, that quickened sense of human sympathy, that recognition of the common purpose of humanity without which the suffering and striving of the United Nations would not achieve its full reward."

## CHINA WELCOMES SIR M. ZAFRULLA KHAN

The arrival of Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan as India's first representative in this country gives rejoicing to the population of Chungking no less than to our Government, said Dr. Wang Shihchieh, Minister of Information, at a Press conference held at Chungking on June 2. "In the minds of the Chinese people, India and China, having been brought closer together by the war, will now march on to make joint contributions towards winning both the war and the peace," he added.

Since his arrival in Chungking, Sir M. Zafrulla Khan has been busy with a round of calls on Chinese Government leaders. He paid his first official call on Mr. P. S. Foo, Political Vice-Minister, and Dr. Tsien Tai, Administrative Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, on May 30, and was received by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek on June 1.

The British Prime Minister, in a message to Chungking's cultural workers, expressed his appreciation of a letter from the latter written in Chinese, bound in the form of a Chinese book. The message has been delivered by the British Ambassador, Sir Horace Seymour to Mr. P. S. Foo to be forwarded to the 500 signatories of the letter. It reads:

"I have been much touched to receive the letter from the representatives of the cultural workers of Chungking. We in London have known, like you, what it is to have our cultural institutions destroyed by barbarous and ruthless aerial attack. But like you I am fully confident that the forces of light, as personified in the United Nations, will prevail, and that when our common enemies have been annihilated, we shall bear forward together, undimmed, the torch of civilisation and humanity."

**Generalissimo's Broadcast To U. S. A.**

"As Commander-in-Chief of the China theatre of war, I pledge you my word that

given ten per cent of the equipment you produce in America, the Chinese Army will reap for you 100 per cent of the desired result," declared Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek in a broadcast to the United States on June 1. The broadcast was given in the U.S. Army Hour Programme at the invitation of the War Department in Washington. Introduced on the New York end as "Our Chinese Ally—Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek," he gave the talk in Chinese, which was rendered into English by Madame Chiang, who followed with a brief message of her own.

### America's Interest In China

An encouraging message of America's supreme confidence in the victory of the Allied cause and her abiding faith in China and readiness to aid China in all fields, financial, military, economic and political, was brought to Chungking by Mr. Manuel Fox, American member of the Stabilisation Board of China, who recently arrived in Chungking from America. Speaking at a Press conference he said that America and Americans take a special interest in China. They profoundly respect China's will to victory manifested by the struggles of its gallant soldiers in the field and by the unbreakable morale of its millions in the rear. They admire the cool and determined leadership of the Generalissimo, symbolising as he does all that is finest in China's war efforts and in its hopes and aspirations for the better world that will emerge from the war.

"All Americans are resolved to aid China on all fronts, financial as well as military, economic as well as political," Mr. Fox declared. "For in aiding China we are aiding ourselves. The recent American loan to China is sufficient testimony of our desire to assist China in coping with the financial problems created by almost five years of war. China's success in solving these problems will constitute our main reward."

## VICEROY'S GREETINGS TO THE KING-EMPEROR

These messages were exchanged between H. E. the Viceroy and H. M. the King-Emperor on the occasion of His Majesty's birthday:

**From H. E. the Viceroy:—**"On behalf of the Princes and people of India the Viceroy, with his humble duty, begs to offer Your Majesty India's most loyal and heartfelt greetings and her warmest good wishes for the long life and prosperity of Your Majesty."

**H. M. the King-Emperor:—**"I sincerely thank you and the Princes and people of India for your kind congratulations on the celebration of my birthday.—George, R.I."

A telegram sent to His Majesty the King-Emperor by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India states:—

"General Sir Archibald Wavell with his humble duty to Your Majesty begs to offer you the loyal greetings and good wishes of the Defence Services in India on the occasion of the celebration of Your Majesty's birthday."

His Majesty the King-Emperor's reply to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief reads:—

"I sincerely thank you and the Defence Services in India for your kind congratulations on the celebration of my birthday."



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

## SIR JEREMY RAISMAN ON THE THIRD DEFENCE LOAN

The floating of the Third Defence Loan, which will be open to public subscription from tomorrow, is a suitable occasion for reminding the Indian investor and the general public of some of the basic facts about our financial position, declared the Hon'ble Sir Jeremy Raisman, Finance Member, Government of India, broadcasting on the "Third Defence Loan" from the Delhi Station of All-India Radio on July 7, 1942.

He said: War inevitably subjects the finances of a country to abnormal strain, but it is a notable fact, which has been widely recognised both inside India and outside, that the financial system of this country has stood the strain remarkably well. Indeed it is not too much to say that it would be difficult to find any country, whether among the belligerents or even the neutrals, whose intrinsic position has remained so sound and strong in spite of the shocks of war. The extinction of practically the whole of India's external public debt is a major element in the reinforcement of our economic and financial strength. Thus, to put it at its lowest level, the lending of money to the Government of India at this time on the terms offered by the new loan is a perfectly sound financial investment, which can be commended to all those who have any responsibility for the safe investment of money.

### Citizens' Duty

But if that were all, I should not think it necessary to add any words of mine to the announcement of this loan, for the facts which I have mentioned are familiar to those who deal in financial affairs. My object at this moment is rather to address the general public and to emphasise the importance from everybody's point of view of investing their savings at this stage in Defence loans. In India, as in all countries engaged in war, the quantity of goods and services which have to be diverted from civilian use, if the maximum effort for Victory is to be made, grows progressively greater. Not only that; but the share of the total production of goods and services, which must be diverted to military use, goes on increasing. This means that inevitably there are less things which the civilian can buy with his money. What then should the enlightened and patriotic citizen do in the best interests of his country and himself? Clearly, he should refrain to the maximum extent from using his money to compete for limited supplies of goods and services, which only tends to push up prices for himself and others. He should endeavour to lead a simple life and to conserve his financial resources for the days to come which will be more favourable to the consumer. His motto should be "Always put off for tomorrow the spending which you need not do today."

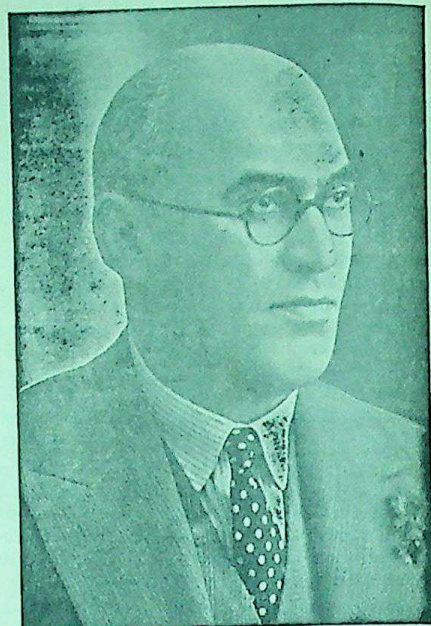
### "We Are All In The Boat"

The money which an enlightened and patriotic citizen thus saves can again best be conserved by lending it to his country at this time; and here I would remind you that everybody who has possessions great or small inevitably has a material stake in the future of his country and is,

whether he knows it or not, directly and personally concerned in the preservation of the economic stability and soundness of the country. By lending his savings to the Government, the citizen does what is in his power to preserve financial and economic stability and therefore to preserve and maintain the value of his own money and his own stake in the country. In this way, the interests of the individual citizen coincide with the highest interests of the country. We are all in the boat, and in times of stress it is common prudence both individual and collective for every one to lend a hand in keeping our craft seaworthy and afloat.

### Sinews Of War

These considerations only serve to reinforce the simple argument which all of us can understand, namely, that money is the sinews of war and that the achievement of Victory calls for the highest effort in the economic and financial as well as in the moral sphere. It is not given to every citizen to assist by his own physical efforts in the field to overthrow the greatest menace to civilization which has faced the modern world, but each one of us in his sphere can find a way by personal sacrifice to make a contribution, however humble, to that cause for which so many of our gallant soldiers, sailors and airmen are giving up their lives. It is no longer difficult to see the dawning of the triumph of



The Hon'ble Sir Jeremy Raisman, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., Finance Member

human culture and kindness over the brutal forces of barbarism. The broad noon-tide of Victory must follow as surely as the day follows the night, but it is not enough to make the contribution of faith. Deeds also are called for and no one of us should be content till he has made his personal contribution to the building of a world in which our children may freely enjoy the priceless heritage of mankind.

## INDIA'S DEBT POSITION

In six months from now the last of the great India stocks will be repaid and British capital investments in India will be finally reduced to ordinary commercial proportions, writes the *Manchester Guardian's* financial editor. We shall have used up for war purposes the bulk of the assets which were created by the export of British savings in the late Victorian and the Edwardian era. As late as March, 1936, the Government of India's sterling debt amounted to £376,000,000. After the repayment of the 3½ per cent stock in January, there will be only about £97,000,000 sterling debt left, and much of it will probably be held outside this country.

Eight years ago interest charges on the sterling debt required a transfer of about £13,000,000, but in 1943-44 only £2,750,000 will be needed. That is a measure of the Anglo-Indian disentanglement which has been going on at a gradually quickening pace at least since the last war.

### No Loan In London Since 1912

No loan has been raised by the Government of India in London since 1912. With growing internal capital resources and improvement in financial facilities, it became possible to raise all the money needed from Indian investors. At the same time it became the official policy to reduce the sterling debt or to convert it at lower interest rates. In the last three or four years

an enormous amount of the debt has been repatriated by the cancellation of sterling loans and their replacement by rupee loans.

This has been done partly by purchases of stock in the market and partly by arrangement with the British Treasury, which has requisitioned British residents' holdings of all but one of the India sterling stocks and sold them to the Government of India for cancellation. The remaining stock will be repaid in January.

### Positive Side

But all this is only the negative side of the process. The positive side is that Indian nationals have been taking over the ownership of immensely valuable productive enterprises which have been created by 50 years of indebtedness to British investors. Almost the whole of the public debt of India has been incurred for developing productive enterprises. This has had the almost incredible result that India has today virtually no national debt in the accepted sense. A few figures may illustrate the point.

The total interest-bearing debt of the Government of India was equivalent to £936,000,000 on March 31, 1941. Of this amount, not less than £677,000,000 or 72 per cent, was represented by profit-making assets among which State-owned railways, public utilities financed by provincial Governments and other semi-commercial enterprises accounted for the great bulk. Many of these investments, especially railways,



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

yield a regular net profit to the Government of India for the relief of the Indian taxpayer after full interest on capital has been paid. The effect of this is as follows :—

In 1941-42 the gross interest payable by the Government of India on all obligations, rupee and sterling, was about £30,000,000. About £25,500,000 of this was received in fixed interest from railways and other commercial departments, leaving only a net charge of £4,500,000 to be met from general revenue. But against this the same asset has yielded a further net profit of £16,500,000 for the benefit of the general budget. Thus the astonishing fact emerges that the interest charge on the entire public debt of India in the widest sense is actually more than covered by income from assets created with the help of this debt.

## PORT TRUST SECURITIES

As apprehension has been expressed in certain quarters regarding the possible effect of the war on Indian Port Trust, Municipal and Improvement Trust securities, it has been decided by the Central Government and the Provincial Governments acting together that they will stand behind these issues and will not allow the finances of the issuing authorities to be so disorganised as a result of war developments as to prevent sufficient funds being made available for their service and payment on maturity. In addition, the Reserve Bank with the approval of the Central Government will be prepared to buy such securities in cases of proved necessity at prices which will be indicated by the Bank to intending sellers. Such prices will be based on the minimum prices already fixed for Central and Provincial Government securities after allowing for the differences which normally prevailed before the present emergency between the prices of the securities in question and similar dated Government securities.

## ENCASHMENT OF BURMA NOTES

The public are warned that the present general encashment of Burma Notes at all Branches of the Imperial Bank throughout India will continue only till July 14, 1942, and that thereafter these notes will only be encashed for genuine refugees at Dibrugarh, Dimapur, Silchar, Margherita and Imphal in Assam and at the Offices of the Reserve Bank of India at Calcutta, Cawnpore and Madras in the rest of India.

Burma notes will continue to be encashed by the Reserve Bank of India as hitherto. Owing to the Burma Notes Ordinance the encashment of such notes will now be on behalf of the Government of India who have authorised the Reserve Bank to continue the existing arrangements till further notice.

## INCREASED ALLOWANCES TO INDIAN EMPLOYEES

According to a message from Bahrain, the Bahrain Petroleum Company has granted war allowances to their Indian employees from April 1, 1942, at the following rates :—

Unskilled and domestic labour ..	Rs. 8 p.m.
Clerical and technical hands ..	Rs. 25 p.m.
Artisans ..	Rs. 20 p.m.

## MALAYAN REPRESENTATIVE WILL DEAL WITH CLAIMS OF EVACUEES

The offices of the Malayan Representative in India have been opened at Bangalore and Bombay. His Headquarters Office is at 2L, South Parade, Andrew's Building, Bangalore. It deals with evacuees living in and south of Hyderabad State. His other office which deals with evacuees who live north of Hyderabad State is situated at Menkwa Building, Outram Road, Bombay.

The Representative is authorised to deal with Malayan claims as under :—

- Arrears of pay of volunteers and of members of the Local Defence Corps who escaped to India from Malaya.
- Maintenance allowances to wives and dependants in India of volunteers and members of the Local Defence Corps who are now presumed to be prisoners of war in enemy-occupied territory.
- Salaries of Government servants who escaped from Malaya to India or who were on leave in India.
- Government pensioners.

(e) Allotments of salary of Government servants and pensioners now in Malaya to wives and dependants in India.

(f) Continuation of education of Malayan scholars.

Malayan evacuees who appear to be eligible to any of the above claims should apply as soon as possible by letter. If their claims are admitted, they should not receive any allowances from any other official source.

### General Enquiries

Other Malayan evacuees—excluding members of the Regular Fighting Services and their dependants—should apply for relief to the local civil authorities.

Enquiries about persons now in enemy-occupied territories may be made to the Red Cross Commissioner, 20 Talkatora Road, New Delhi, or the Department of Indians Overseas, Government of India, New Delhi.

General enquiries, e.g., regarding news of friends who have left Malaya, may be made by letter addressed to the Malayan Representative's offices at Bangalore and Bombay.

## WAR RISKS (FACTORIES) INSURANCE

As certain doubts have been expressed in commercial circles as to the exact meaning of insurable value in connection with the War Risks (Factories) Insurance Ordinance, the following is published for general information.

Insurable value for the purposes of the Ordinance may be illustrated by the following example :

"A" bought a machine ten years ago for Rs. 1,000/- which on the date of application would cost new Rs. 3,000/-. The insurable value then is Rs. 3,000/- less reasonable depreciation for ten years' use. If reasonable depreciation in this case were considered to be 30 per cent, then the sum insurable would be Rs. 2,100/-, in other words, exactly the same as would apply in the case of a person insuring under an ordinary Fire Insurance policy.

The owner of the property himself should be able to judge as to what life can be expected of the property and to what extent its life or efficiency has been impaired by use or other causes from year to year and should be able, therefore, fairly to assess reasonable depreciation.

It follows that neither depreciation provided in books of account nor depreciation as laid down by the Income Tax authorities need necessarily constitute reasonable depreciation for the purposes of the Ordinance.

### Factories in Indian States

An Ordinance amending the War Risks (Factories) Insurance Ordinance was promulgated on July 1, 1942, with the object

of enabling the Government of India to undertake insurance against War Risks of factories situated in such Indian States, French Establishments in India and Administered Areas as enact a law requiring owners or occupiers of factories in their territories to insure against War Risks with the Government of India.

The amending ordinance further provides that premises which become a factory after May 29, 1942, must be insured against War Risks before the commencement of the quarter next following that in which the premises have become a factory.

## BLOCK PURCHASE OF OUTMARKET TEAS

A report has recently appeared in the Press that the United States of America, United Kingdom and the Union of South Africa are buying up almost the whole of the world's tea supply and that it will be apportioned among them according to their present requirements. This has resulted in considerable speculative buying and further advance in internal prices.

The Government of India wish to make it clear that in any arrangement which may be ultimately adopted in regard to the block purchase of outmarket teas, an adequate quantity of tea will be reserved for the internal market and that there is no justification for speculative buying in anticipation of a shortage of tea on this account later in the year.



## COMMERCE



Finished khaki cloth is stacked in rolls in a South Indian mill which is producing large quantities of cloth for the Army

# REVIEW OF TRADE OF INDIA FOR 1940-41

**T**he output of iron and steel, coal and paper have broken all records, says the Annual Review of the Trade of India for 1940-41, issued on July 9. Excepting a few industries, the increase in industrial production was fairly widespread.

The output of cotton piecegoods increased to 4,269 million yards as compared with 4,012 million yards in the preceding year, the cotton mill industry resorting to double-shift working on a large scale.

The output of paper rose to 1,753,000 cwt.—the highest output since 1928-29.

### Jute And Sugar

The two important articles that did not share the general expansion of industry were jute and sugar. The production of jute fell by 14 per cent and of sugar by 13 per cent as compared with the preceding year. In both cases, the heavy stocks carried over from the previous year forced manufacturers to reduce their output.

A large number of other industries also received a powerful stimulus from the war. War supply orders encouraged the production of a number of industrial articles, not hitherto produced in India or produced only in small quantities.

Another index of industrial prosperity is provided by industrial profits and industrial prices. Between 1937 and 1940 the index of industrial profits rose from 61 to 112—a rise of 84 per cent. From September, 1940, prices of variable-yield securities recovered and with a slight interruption in December, 1940, kept rising up to the end of the year.

From September, 1940, prices of manufactured articles began to rise and every successive month till March 1941 saw the prices attaining a higher level. This rise in prices was the result of a variety of factors

such as the receipt of further Government orders, the improved situation in the jute mill industry, the seasonal revival of demand for cotton piecegoods and the institution of a stricter Government control over the sugar industry.

### Government Measures

The heavy accumulation of surpluses of certain commodities, especially jute, groundnut and sugar, created panic in the market, but confidence was gradually restored by various steps taken by Central and Provincial Governments. The Government of India introduced a scheme of war risk insurance on land, relaxed restrictions on the export of oilseeds to neutral countries, despatched an exploratory mission to the United States of America, extended the chain of Trade Commissioners and set up a fund for the relief of groundnut cultivators.

Simultaneously the Bengal Government attempted to support the prices of raw jute and enforced a compulsory restriction of area under jute. Other measures included propaganda in Madras for restricting the area under groundnut, various schemes of research undertaken by the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research for exploring alternative uses for vegetable oils and oilseeds, the Supply Department's efforts to ensure the increased use of short-staple cotton for manufacturing textiles for Government purposes, and Government of India's coffee control scheme for securing a smooth disposal of coffee surplus.

### India's Trade Position

The cotton surplus was reduced to some extent by the increased exports to China and by the high level of activity in the mill industry which brought about a big increase in consumption. However, in view of the slump in the export trade the problem of surplus cotton, particularly in the short-staple varieties, can hardly be said to have been solved in this way.

With the conspicuous exceptions of rice and wheat, the average prices of almost all other agricultural products—principally raw cotton, raw jute, groundnut—recorded a perceptible decline.

The spread of the war in Europe and the Middle East stopped trade with a number of countries. With countries still open to trade, trading was subjected to most trying conditions arising from an acute shortage of shipping, an abnormal rise in freight and insurance rates, the complicated network of exchange and trade restrictions set up in almost every country and above all the uncertainty created by the political situation in the Eastern countries.

The shrinkage in foreign trade was in part an outcome of all these factors. The relatively greater reduction in exports was partly due to the price factor and to the blockade of industrialised Europe which affected the demand for raw materials more than industrial products. Moreover the shortage of freight space itself affects the value of exports much more than that of imports as the latter are mainly composed of industrial products and, therefore, occupy less space per unit of value.

### Exports

But since the outbreak of the war exports from India by Government for defence purposes have not been recorded in the trade returns and since India has been exporting vast quantities of materials and foodstuffs to different theatres of war, the actual value of exports are considerably higher than the recorded figures.

A large part of the loss due to the closure of European markets was made good by increased exports to Empire countries and the United States of America. During 1940-41, exports of Indian merchandise to Empire countries amounted to Rs. 1,16,64 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1,14,06 lakhs in 1939-40 and Rs. 85,37 lakhs in 1938-39. Similarly, exports to the United States of America increased from Rs. 13,88 lakhs in 1938-39 to Rs. 25,90 lakhs in 1940-41. A remarkable increase has been recorded in the exports to China.

In terms of recorded value, the export trade of India in 1940-41, though smaller than in 1939-40, was higher than in 1938-39 and in 1937-38. The total value of India's exports to all countries including Burma amounted to Rs. 1,87 crores as compared with Rs. 2,04 crores in the preceding year and Rs. 1,63 crores in 1938-39. The value of imports showed a relatively smaller reduction, amounting to Rs. 1,57 crores as against Rs. 1,65 crores in 1939-40 and Rs. 1,52 crores in 1938-39.

### Balance Of Trade

The nominal balance of trade in merchandise was adversely affected; the total favourable balance of trade amounted to Rs. 42 crores as compared with Rs. 49 crores in 1939-40, though it still remained considerably higher than in 1937-38 or 1938-39 when it amounted to Rs. 16 crores and Rs. 17 crores respectively.

Reduction was recorded in exports of raw jute, jute manufactures, cotton, raw and waste, oilseeds (though castorseed, rapeseed and linseed showed an improvement), coffee and hides and skins. Exports of raw goat skins were, however, fully maintained as both the principal export markets, the U.S.A. and the United Kingdom, were still open. Tea and rice, not in the husk, recorded decreases in quantity but increases in value. Exports of wheat registered a substantial increase in both.



## INDUSTRY

Export of cotton piecegoods from India rose by more than Rs. 4½ crores to Rs. 10.64 crores, the highest level for more than a decade. Exports of metals, ores and minerals declined in quantity but rose in value. Several other industrial articles such as boots and shoes, building and engineering materials, chemicals, paper and pasteboard, rubber manufactures, manufactured tobacco, etc., recorded increases.

### Imports

As regards imports, in most cases in which an increase in value has been recorded, the increase was either accompanied by a decline in quantity or was out of proportion to the increase in quantity. An increase in industrial production places a country simultaneously in a position to reduce its intake of foreign industrial products, to increase its exports of manufactured articles, to utilise a larger quantity of its own raw materials at home and to consume additional supplies of raw materials from abroad. During 1940-41 this trend was prominently in evidence.

Inland trade in hides and skins, raw jute and oilseeds suffered a noticeable reduction. On the other hand, sugar (including *gur*), iron and steel, raw cotton, cotton piecegoods and gunny bags and cloth recorded increases. The total quantity of inland trade in certain important articles decreased from 828 million maunds in 1939-40 to 803 million maunds, though it still remained higher than in any recent year other than 1939-40.

### Cheap Money

Cheap money and investors' confidence in the future of gilt-edged prices mainly accounted for the steady tone of gilt-edged values. The intrinsic strength of the security market was indicated by the consistent demand for long-term issues. There was no banking crisis, despite the pressure of hoarding.

The persistence of cheap money was due, among other things, to the expanding cash resources of the money market as a result of the accretions of sterling, the operations of the Reserve Bank, the maintenance of the bank rate and bond rate at 3 per cent, the relative and temporary setback suffered by agriculture and trade and the lower level of agricultural prices. Part of accumulated balances with the Reserve Bank was used for repatriating India's sterling debt.

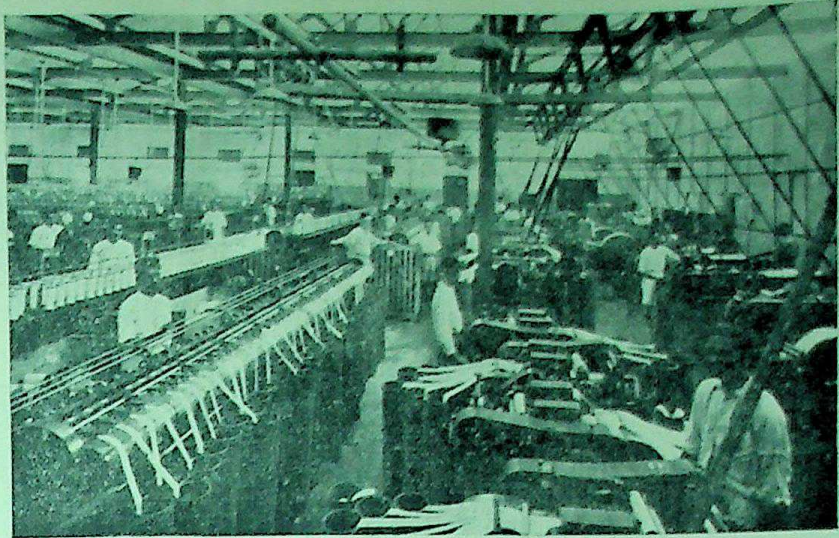
## SHELLAC PRICES

The Government of India issued a notification on June 10, 1942, withdrawing their earlier order fixing the maximum prices of shellac on the basis of Rs. 66-8-0 per maund for shellac T. N. at Calcutta.

This maximum price, which was fixed towards the close of the last season when the market was virtually denuded of stocks, has now become entirely ineffective owing to the arrival of the new season's production and has, therefore, been cancelled.

The Government of India, however, reserve the right to reintroduce price control if at any time this is found to be necessary, at such level as may in their judgment be appropriate.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1942



This Spun-Silk Mill in an Indian State produces yarn useful in the manufacture of parachutes



REELED SILK THREAD PACKED IN BAGS IS SENT TO THE WEAVING CENTRES

## SILK FOR MAKING PARACHUTES

RS. 18½ LAKHS SCHEME FOR FILATURE REELING

To meet the growing demands for silk for the manufacture of parachutes, a scheme has recently been introduced for expanding the filature reeling of silk in India. The capital cost of the scheme, estimated at Rs. 18½ lakhs, is to be borne by His Majesty's Government.

The scheme involves the installation of 3,000 additional basins, a test house and a silk conditioning house. The Madras Government have agreed to instal and work 1,000 basins, and negotiations are proceeding with other provinces and States, notably Mysore and Bengal, to implement the full scheme.

It is anticipated that when the scheme comes into full operation, it will help to effect a change-over from village hand reeling to filature reeling by turning out an extra 1,000,000 lbs. of filature reeled raw silk suitable for all parachute silk components.

Though India has a surplus production of raw silk, her output of filature reeled silk is hardly enough for her own needs. Eighty per cent of the raw silk produced is hand-reeled, and consequently uneven and unsuitable for parachute components. The only prospect of meeting the present demands, therefore, is by increasing the filature reeling capacity—and this is now proposed to be done under the new scheme.

## ENEMY FIRMS

The Government of India in notifications dated May 20 and 21, 1942, issued in supersession of all previous notifications, a consolidated list of enemy firms in neutral countries with whom it is unlawful to have dealings of any kind and issued further additions to that list.



# COMMUNICATIONS

## DO NOT SEND FAULTY AIRGRAPHS

Information has been received from the Airgraph Section of the General Post Office, Bombay, that at least 80 to 100 airgraphs, on an average per day, are found to be faulty and could not therefore be forwarded to their destinations by the airgraph service.

Some of these were without postage or insufficiently prepaid. The present airgraph rate is eight annas for the public and three annas for members of His Majesty's Military, Naval and Air Forces, when the forms are franked by a responsible officer.

While the outward service from India is now operating only in respect of the United Kingdom (including Eire), airgraph letters are posted to other countries, too, to which the Service does not operate. For instance, letters are frequently addressed to Australia and New Zealand.

### Instructions To Public

Addresses are often type-written instead of being written in block letters. Moreover,

in some cases, the addresses are not written within the panel specially provided for the purpose in the airgraph form.

The public are, therefore, advised to fill in the airgraph form strictly according to the instructions printed on its reverse, in order to ensure its being forwarded to its destination.

Airgraph forms, which are addressed to countries to which the Airgraph Service is not available or are not stamped or are insufficiently stamped, will in future be forwarded to destination by the sea route. Forms which contain other defects will, if possible, be forwarded to the addressees or returned to the senders.

Whenever more than one airgraph form for one addressee is used by the sender, the name and address of the sender and of the addressee must be inserted on each form and all the forms must be fastened together with thread.

Producer Gas is made from charcoal and contains ash and impurities in greater or lesser degree. This cannot be helped, being the nature of charcoal, but steps are being taken by Forest Departments to secure to the public the most suitable grades of charcoal. The impurities have to be removed to as fine a degree as possible before the gas is led to the engine, and this is the most important point to look to when considering the purchase of a plant.

As to the saving in fuel cost by turning over to Producer Gas, an actual saving, recorded on a bus recently, showed 1.74 annas per mile. On a basis of 2,000 miles per month, this represents Rs. 218 which means that a Producer Plant should pay for itself before very long.

The lubrication of the engine when working on Producer Gas presents no difficulty, but the gas is much drier than the petrol mixture, and upper cylinder lubrication requires attention. There is no crankcase dilution. Generally speaking, a lubricating oil one grade lighter than that which has been in use with the petrol engine may be employed.

## PRODUCER GAS PLANT FOR VEHICLES

Between 4,000 and 5,000 transport vehicles (buses and lorries) have now been fitted with producer gas plants mainly in Madras.

The Communications Department of the Government of India has been able to secure a quota of steel material in order to expedite this development by assisting makers of Producer Plants all over India to obtain their requirements. This steel material has been laid down at various points and will be drawn upon by manufacturers of approved plants, under licences which have been issued to them.

A number of Provincial Governments have drawn up regulations governing the general design, construction, and fitting of Producer Plants for vehicles; others are expected to follow. These rules are designed to help manufacturers and the vehicle-using public and to encourage a reasonably high standard throughout, in manufacture and performance.

### From Petrol To Producer Gas

The following notes will be of help to those contemplating the conversion of their buses and lorries from petrol to Producer Gas. Let it be said at the outset that it is quite possible to obtain in India a number of different types of Gas Producer plants that can be depended on to give satisfactory performance, so long as certain elementary steps are taken to look after the plant, and to ensure regular cleaning of the system. Every maker of reputable issues full and comprehensive instructions for the care and maintenance of his plant; he offers service also, and free advice, while free tuition of the customer's driver is often a feature.

Any vehicle to be converted should be in as good a mechanical condition as possible. The engine should be in first class order, for it must be remembered that Producer Gas has not by its very nature the same power as petrol, and can only give about 60 per cent of the power that can be given by petrol. This drop in power is not a serious matter on fairly level roads, but the gas must be augmented with petrol

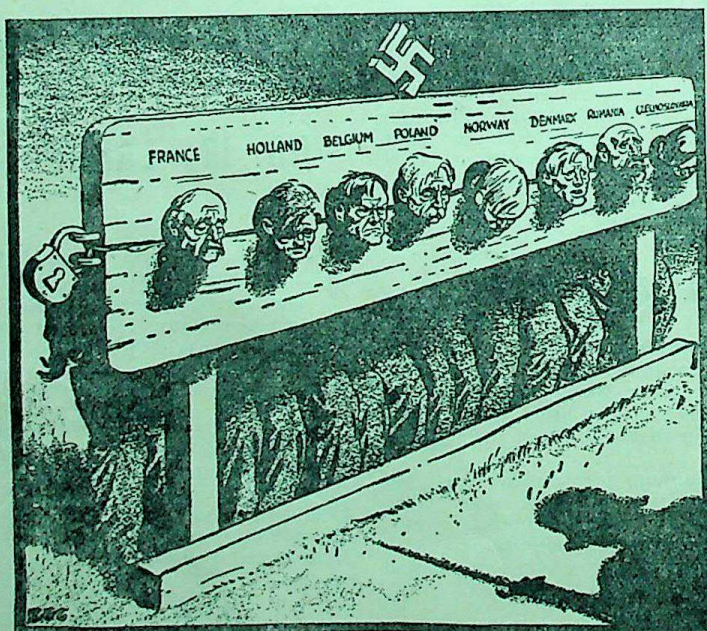
for heavy hill climbing. Again, while it is beneficial with Producer Gas, to increase the compression ratio of the engine to about 8 to 1, this is not a general practice in India. The usual petrol engine ignition should, however, be advanced in timing by about 6° to 8°.

### Cleaning And Filtering

Regarding wear in the engine, every maker of repute embodies in his plant adequate cleaning and filtering arrangements, and the buyer must satisfy himself that proper provision is made for gas cooling, and gas filtering, for the cooler the gas the better it is, while there should be at least three stages of filtering as well. Several makers add a fourth or final gas filter.

## NEWSPRINT RETURNS GOVERNMENT'S WARNING

Under paragraph 5 of the Newsprint Control Order, 1941, every proprietor of a newspaper is required to submit to the Chief Controller of Imports, on or before the 15th day of every month, in the prescribed form a true return of the amount of newsprint held, acquired, consumed and otherwise disposed of by him during the preceding calendar month. Proprietors of newspapers are warned that if they do not submit the return regularly, they will run the risk of not being granted any quota of newsprint in future, apart from rendering themselves liable to action for violation of the Newsprint Control Order.



EUROPE UNITED-BY ADOLF HITLER.



## EDUCATION—HEALTH—LANDS

### RECRUITMENT OF WOMEN MEDICAL GRADUATES TO I.M.S.

In a Press communique, dated January 13, 1942, the Government of India announced their decision to recruit to the Indian Medical Service, for the duration of the present emergency, a number of women medical graduates having experience in diseases of Ear, Nose and Throat, Radiology, Pathology, Ophthalmology or Anaesthetics.

The Government are now pleased to announce their decision to dispense with the condition requiring experience in these special subjects. Women medical graduates, therefore, whether or not they have experience in any of these subjects, are now eligible for employment in the Indian Medical Service.

#### I. M. S. FOR SERVICE IN INDIA

The Government of India have decided to open recruitment to the Emergency Branch of the Indian Medical Service for service in India only. Officers recruited in this category will be granted a lower rate of pay than that for general service officers, but their other terms and conditions of service will generally be the same as for the latter.

Officers recruited for service in India only may be permitted to transfer to the General Service Cadre.

#### RESERVATION OF I. M. S. VACANCIES

Fifty per cent of permanent vacancies in the I.M.S. after the war, it is now announced by the Government of India, will be reserved for medical men who have held emergency commissions in the Service, provided they are qualified under the conditions then in force.

This definite allotment follows the announcement that in making appointments to fill permanent vacancies after the war preference will be given to Emergency Commissioned Medical Officers.

The allocation of these permanent commissions between British and Indian



MATRON OF AN INDIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL  
IN THE MIDDLE EAST BROADCASTS MESSAGES  
TO HER PEOPLE IN BANGALORE

Officers will depend not on previously laid down compositions of the I.M.S. but on such proportions as may be specially laid down after the war. It is further announced by the Government of India that the composition of the I.M.S. will be reviewed immediately after the end of hostilities.

As a wartime measure the Government of India have decided to admit Indians possessing foreign medical qualifications of the requisite standard to the Emergency Cadre of the Indian Medical Service. Each application will be considered on its merits in consultation with the Medical Council of India.

### INDIAN FRUITS FOR THE UNITED STATES

India's trade with the United States of America recorded a further increase in 1940-41. Imports nearly doubled, rising from Rs. 14.86 lakhs to Rs. 27.00 lakhs, while exports increased from Rs. 27.18 lakhs to Rs. 31.94 lakhs.

India's principal exports to the U.S.A. consisted of raw and manufactured jute, hides and skins, lac, fruits and vegetables, raw cotton and raw wool.

While the export of raw jute amounted to 46,000 tons as compared with 51,000 tons during the previous year, export of jute cloth rose to 873 million yards from 764 million yards in 1939-40, the value advancing by Rs. 1.93 lakhs to Rs. 12.34 lakhs. There was a smaller demand for lac and tanned and dressed hides and skins, but shipments of fruits and vegetables were valued at Rs. 1.39 lakhs as compared with Rs. 98 lakhs in the previous year.

#### Imports From U.S.

India's imports from the U.S.A. consisted chiefly of machinery and millwork, motor vehicles, mineral oils, instruments, manufactured tobacco, chemicals, dyeing and tanning substances, iron and steel, zinc, paper and paste-board and raw cotton.

Imports of machinery and millwork rose in value from Rs. 2.49 lakhs to Rs. 3.09 lakhs. The number of cars imported declined from 2,969 to 1,989, while the number of omnibuses imported increased from 10,334 to 13,498.

There was also considerable improvement in the import of paper and paste-board which advanced from 0.2 million cwts. (Rs. 24 lakhs) to 1.1 million cwts. (Rs. 1.76 lakhs). The value of dyeing and tanning substances advanced from Rs. 24 lakhs to Rs. 2.38 lakhs; and zinc from Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 59 lakhs.

### HOW R.A.F. PLANE RESCUED TROOPS

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 113]

demand. It was with great satisfaction that we saw the pilot return after dark, he having at last got through and dropped the supplies at the Squadron's third attempt that day."

The feat of the Squadron Leader, Captain of a large troop-carrying aircraft, earns special praise.

"He circled for some time before landing, giving ample warning," said an Air Commodore. He put up a really first-class show getting down. He landed back at his base in the dark with his load of 23 people in addition to his crew. He was forced to use emergency boost to get off and nearly 'wrote off' the aircraft bouncing across the undulations. It was a first class piece of work."

The feeding and rescue of the troops has constituted one of the supreme efforts of this nature by the Royal Air Force and the crews concerned have been warmly congratulated.

Incidentally it can now be stated that the Squadron concerned in bringing out the stranded party have dropped 300,000 lbs. of supplies to the refugees and troops leaving Burma.

### SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS FOR U. S. S. R.

Nearly 80,000 surgical instruments manufactured in India have been supplied to the Indian Red Cross Commissioner for despatch to Russia. This was revealed at the seventh meeting of the Medical Stores Supply Committee which met in New Delhi on July 10, with Lieut.-General Sir Gordon Jolly, Director-General, Indian Medical Service, in the chair. A representative of the drug manufacturers in India has now been included in the Committee.

Reviewing the progress of medical stores manufacture in India, the Committee noted that during the last six months 133 items have been transferred to the list of medical store articles now made in India. Marked progress has been made in the production in India of Acriflavine, Atropine Sulphate, Catgut Ligatures, Tannic Acid, Creosote and Ephedrine.

There have been important developments in the manufacture in India of

surgical instruments and appliances, both as to variety and quantity, and the gross output of the industry has increased tenfold within the past twelve months. For example, one million "suture" needles were manufactured during the six months ending with May 1942, and the production of six million more over the next 12 months has been planned.

The position of anti-malaria drugs in India, particularly quinine, was reviewed by the Committee. The desirability of enlisting the aid of the medical profession in India in preventing waste of quinine in the treatment of malaria was strongly urged. The Committee noted the recommendation of the Malaria Commission of the League of Nations that the standard course of treatment for malaria should consist of 15 to 20 grains of quinine daily for five to seven days. It was agreed that if medical practitioners in general followed this rule, much waste would be avoided.



# WAR FUNDS

## COMFORTS FOR INDIAN WAR PRISONERS

As far as can be ascertained, the actual number of Indian prisoners of war in Europe is 2,642, observes the report of the Indian Comforts Fund, London, for April, 1942. They are distributed as follows: Germany, 1,620 military and 600 seamen; Italy, 336 military, and miscellaneous 86. News was received from Geneva of the arrival in Italy of 138 prisoners captured in North Africa in December, 1941.

The Fund is now despatching 3,000 weekly food parcels and just over 3,000 next-of-kin parcels of clothing and comforts. Satisfactory evidence is being received from camps in Germany and Italy that these parcels are reaching their destinations.

### Club For Indian Seamen

Cases of tinned milk numbering 102 from Brazil have been issued from stocks at Geneva to supplement ordinary diet in Indian camps. Steps are being taken to provide games for successive crews of His Majesty's Indian ships. A new Club for Indian Seamen has been opened at Liverpool, the opening ceremony being performed by the Duke of Devonshire and the Recreation Room being furnished at a cost of £150, from the "Queen's Gift" earmarked for Indian Seamen.

The Fund is now registered under the "War Charities Act, 1940." The new

High Commissioner for India has kindly consented to be its Patron.

The Fund's greatest needs have been films, books and gramophone records, which have been and are being met from various sources, including the Master General of Ordnance, India (films), and the Indian Red Cross (books and records). In addition to records made by the H. M. V. Company, H. H. the Nawab of Bhawalpur kindly donated a few records.

### VICEROY'S WAR PURPOSES FUND

£25,000 were contributed overseas from His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, during the fortnight ended June 15, 1942, for the purchase of aircraft for the Royal Air Force.

A sum of Rs. 66,000 was paid in India for purchases made for the benefit of Burma evacuees. Other outstanding payments in India were Rs. 1,00,000 for Defence Services Estimates for the Indian Air Force and Rs. 1,13,100 for the Royal Indian Navy. The Central Joint War Committee of the Indian Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Association received Rs. 11,000.

Total collections, including interest realised on investment of cash balances,

amounted to Rs. 7,00,52,000 on June 15, 1942. Receipts in St. Dunstan's Section stood at Rs. 6,67,000. Total payments in India and overseas aggregated Rs. 5,96,80,660.

Here are further contributions to His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund:—

S. Harbans Singh (Bahawalpur State) Rs. 200 for comforts for Indian Prisoners of war; Narottam Zaberchand Sanghi (Limbdi State) Rs. 500 for Indian Red Cross.

H.H. the Maharawat of Partabgarh has contributed a further sum of Rs. 1,000 to the Fund.

The Tonk Darbar have donated a further sum of Rs. 4,000 to the Fund for Defence Services.

The Maharaja of Surguja has sent, on behalf of the Maharani Sahiba, a contribution of Rs. 5,000 to H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund.

The Western India States War Gifts Fund have contributed a further sum of Rs. 15,447-0-11 in response to His Excellency the Viceroy's appeal for the China Day Fund.

The gifts have been gratefully accepted by His Excellency the Crown Representative.

## WAR LOAN INVESTMENTS

This statement shows the amounts subscribed by each of the 11 Provinces, and by the Indian States and Centrally-Administered areas, to the Indian Defence Loans, in April, 1942, together with progressive totals for each Province.

### STATISTICS OF DEFENCE LOANS FOR APRIL, 1942 (IN THOUSANDS)

Area.	3% Defence Loans.	Interest Free Bonds.		Defence Savings Certificates.				Defence Savings Bank.		Grand Total
	Total subscriptions up to the date of closing the 3% Loan, 1949-52 (2nd Defence Loan).	Subscriptions for April, 1942 (Preliminary).	Progressive total to end of the month.	Sales during April 1942 (Preliminary)	Encashments during the month.	Net Sales for the month.	Progressive (net) total to end of the month.	Deposits during April 1942 (Preliminary).	Progressive total to end of the month.	Total of columns (2), (4), (8) and (10).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Bengal.. ..	40,74,14	2	38,77	1,78	4,29	—2,51	78,02	7	1,45	41,92,38
Bombay .. ..	37,55,66	33	1,22,34	1,83	2,84	—1,01	77,34	5	1,93	39,57,27
Punjab .. ..	5,10,84	30	14,87	2,11	1,05	1,06	54,68	11	2,22	5,82,61
United Provinces ..	4,38,96	1,02	10,05	3,50	2,08	1,42	64,41	19	2,24	5,15,66
Madras .. ..	4,21,98	18	5,46	95	1,15	—20	29,82	3	41	4,57,67
Sind .. ..	1,30,56	2	3,02	66	28	38	13,97	†	53	1,48,08
Bihar .. ..	90,47	1	5,51	3,23	1,17	2,06	33,96	1	41	1,30,35
Delhi .. ..	72,00	†	2,02	19	21	—2	7,02	†	22	81,26
C.P. & Berar .. ..	30,00	†	1,37	47	45	2	19,90	†	27	51,54
N.-W. F. P. .. ..	23,74	†	1,28	30	2	28	6,12	†	18	31,32
Orissa .. ..	27,35	†	6	10	10	†	3,50	†	4	30,95
Baluchistan .. ..	17,04	†	54	33	5	28	3,45	—	†	21,03
Assam .. ..	11,03	†	20	25	7	18	7,25	†	24	18,72
Ajmer-Merwara .. ..	8,94	—	16	3	1	2	1,53	†	2	10,65
Coorg .. ..	2	—	—	†	†	†	15	†	†	17
Indian States and other Central Treasuries ..	2,57,99	7	66,97	1,15	1,03	12	34,85	7	1,00	3,60,81
Total .. ..	98,70,72	1,95	2,72,62*	16,88	14,80	2,08	4,35,97*	54	11,16*	1,05,90,47*

† Subscription less than Rs. 500.

\* Includes subsequent adjustments of previous preliminary figures.



# ANGLO-U.S. PACT ON MUTUAL AID IN WAR AGAINST AGGRESSION

Here is the full text of the agreement between the Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States of America on the principles applying to mutual aid in the prosecution of the war against aggression, signed at Washington on February 23, 1942:

Whereas the Governments of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America declare that they are engaged in a co-operative undertaking, together with every other nation or people of like mind, to the end of laying the bases of a just and enduring world peace securing order under law to themselves and all nations;

And whereas the President of the United States of America has determined, pursuant to the Act of Congress of March 11, 1941, that the defence of the United Kingdom against aggression is vital to the defence of the United States of America;

And whereas the United States of America has extended and is continuing to extend to the United Kingdom aid in resisting aggression;

And whereas it is expedient that the final determination of the terms and conditions upon which the Government of the United Kingdom receives such aid and of the benefits to be received by the United States of America in return therefor should be deferred until the extent of the defence aid is known and until the progress of events makes clearer the final terms and conditions and benefits which will be in the mutual interests of the United States of America and the United Kingdom, and will promote the establishment and maintenance of world peace;

## Preliminary Agreement

And whereas the Governments of the United States of America and the United Kingdom are mutually desirous of concluding now a preliminary agreement in regard to the providing of defence aid and in regard to certain considerations which shall be taken into account in determining such terms and conditions, and the making of such an agreement has been in all respects duly authorised, and all acts, conditions and formalities which it may have been necessary to perform, fulfil or execute prior to the making of such an agreement in conformity with the laws either of the United States of America or of the United Kingdom have been performed, fulfilled or executed as required;

The undersigned, being duly authorised by their respective Governments for that purpose, have agreed as follows:—

ARTICLE 1. The Government of the United States of America will continue to supply the Government of the United Kingdom with such defence articles, defence services, and defence information as the President shall authorise to be transferred or provided.

ARTICLE 2. The Government of the United Kingdom will continue to contribute to the defence of the United States of America and the strengthening thereof, and will provide such articles, services, facilities or information as it may be in a position to supply.

ARTICLE 3. The Government of the United Kingdom will not, without the consent of the President of the United States of America, transfer title to, or possession of, any defence article or defence information transferred to it under the Act, or permit the use thereof by anyone not an officer,

employee or agent of the Government of the United Kingdom.

ARTICLE 4. If, as a result of the transfer to the Government of the United Kingdom of any defence article or defence information, it becomes necessary for that Government to take any action or make any payment in order fully to protect any of the rights of a citizen of the United States of America who has patent rights in and to any such defence article or information, the Government of the United Kingdom will take such action or make such payment when requested to do so by the President of the United States of America.

ARTICLE 5. The Government of the United Kingdom will return to the United States of America at the end of the present emergency, as determined by the President, such defence articles transferred under this Agreement as shall not have been destroyed, lost or consumed, and as shall be determined by the President to be useful in the defence of the United States of America or of the Western Hemisphere or to be otherwise of use to the United States of America.

ARTICLE 6. In the final determination of the benefits to be provided to the United States of America by the Government of the United Kingdom, full cognisance shall be taken of all property, services, information, facilities or other benefits or considerations provided by the Government of the United Kingdom subsequent to March 11, 1941, and accepted or acknowledged by the President on behalf of the United States of America.

ARTICLE 7. In the final determination of the benefits to be provided to the United States of America by the Government of the United Kingdom in return for aid furnished under the Act of Congress of

March 11, 1941, the terms and conditions thereof shall be such as not to burden commerce between the two countries, but to promote mutually advantageous economic relations between them and the betterment of world-wide economic relations. To that end, they shall include provision for agreed action by the United States of America and the United Kingdom, open to participation by all other countries of like mind, directed to the expansion, by appropriate international and domestic measures, of production, employment, and the exchange and consumption of goods, which are the material foundations of the liberty and welfare of all peoples; to the elimination of all forms of discriminatory treatment in international commerce, and to the reduction of tariffs and other trade barriers; and, in general, to the attainment of all the economic objectives set forth in the Joint Declaration made on August 12, 1941, by the President of the United States of America and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

At an early convenient date conversations shall be begun between the two Governments with a view to determining, in the light of governing economic conditions, the best means of attaining the above-stated objectives by their own agreed action and of seeking the agreed action of other like-minded Governments.

ARTICLE 8. This Agreement shall take effect as from this day's date. It shall continue in force until a date to be agreed upon by the two Governments.

Signed and sealed at Washington in duplicate this 23rd day of February, 1942.

On behalf of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:

(L.S.) HALIFAX,

His Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Washington.

On behalf of the Government of the United States of America:

(L.S.) SUMNER WELLES,

Acting Secretary of State of the United States Government.



GERMANS, Your Living Room



# HURS USE STRANGE WEAPONS

**L**ocked away in a room at the headquarters of Upper Sind Forces, Hyderabad, are antique firing pieces, noise-makers, and axes—property of 1942 gangsters.

Powder and small shot take the place of the Tommy-gun; in place of the automatic they use the pistol which was the pride of the highwaymen of old.

This odd assortment of weapons has been collected by military and police forces operating in Sind against the Hurs. These are the arms with which the Hurs ride out against villages and small communities to murder and loot. Each weapon in this museum-armoury is laid out on a table. Underneath is a label tersely telling the story.

## Boomerangs

One interesting weapon is a fairly good substitute for the Nazi-concentration camp rubber truncheon. It is a length of wire hawser with a substantial piece of lead at one end. Says the official note: "Bludgeon. This was constructed from a piece of wire hawser stolen from a telegraph pole."

With this strange collection of weapons are scales for measuring out powder and shot and a bag containing small shot—round pellets—which flatten when they strike their target and are extremely difficult to remove.

Boomerangs, too, are there; but apparently the Hurs are not adept at the use of this type of weapon.

Noise-makers on view are particularly interesting. They consist of long pieces of hollow lead tubing with bowls, like pipes, at the ends. In these bowls gunpowder is fired, the tactics being to trick the local inhabitants into thinking the Hurs' armament is much heavier and more numerous than it is.

Iron rations, too, are remembered by the Hurs. A bottle is shown with herbs like tea leaves in it. This is described as a "thirst-quenching mixture of alacki and ghulkand."

But the Hurs' great weapon is the axe. Their method is to shoot a person with a gun or rifle at extremely close quarters—in the stomach—and then to drag him for a distance by the legs and finish the business with the axe.

With large numbers of Hurs being rounded up, however, it becomes increasingly clear that their mentality is almost entirely of the "stab-in-the-back" type.

Since the proclamation of martial law on June 1, twenty-six Hurs have been executed after coming before military courts. Others have been sentenced to terms of imprisonment. Roughly 70 of them have come before the courts which sit every day to take summaries of evidence or to try cases.

## Military Courts

Prisoners are surprised by the rapidity with which the military courts work. After the case has been heard, findings—in the event of the death sentence—are confirmed by the Commander of the Upper Sind Forces and the execution is carried out immediately.

Confessions are seldom obtained from the prisoners, although recently one Hur was so overjoyed at the prospect of being freed that he proved very talkative and most helpful.

Hurs are divided into two types, the Farqui Hur and the Salim Jamiat Hur. The former is the more brutal and fanatical of the two. All are wiry and can march 30 miles a day for several days with comparative ease.

Estimates of the number of Hurs vary. There may be as many as a quarter of a million, the majority not being active followers of the Pir. The outrages which have occurred since the outbreak of war in 1939 are probably the work of a few hundred men. Since that time several hundred Hurs have been arrested.

Outrages are confined mainly to murder and dacoities in the Nawabshah and Tharparkar districts. Their chief hide-out is somewhere in the Makhi Dhand area of the Sanghar Taluka. This area consists of some 125 sq. miles of forest and jungle and lies between Jamrao Head and Paksari along the border of the Dhoru Naro which comes down from Sukkur through the Khairpur State and Tharparkar District.

## MANY HURS ARRESTED

Nearly 600 arrests have been made in the Martial Law area in Sind since the introduction of the measure. Of these the majority have been released after interrogation, while a few of the remainder have been detained for offences committed before martial law was introduced.

In the most affected district, main operations have been directed towards clearing the area of resident Hurs between the river Indus and some 10 to 15 miles east of the main railway line. The area of these operations is between Reti and Rohri, and between Nawabshah and Tando Adam, which is 40 miles north-east of Hyderabad. Two cases of canal breaching have occurred near Tando Adam, but the situation in this area has improved considerably.

In Upper Sind, since June 1, eleven dacoities have been reported and troops and police have followed up the gangs concerned, in several cases with success.

A military detachment was engaged by a party of Hurs east of Sanghar on the morning of June 14. A thorough search of this area as far as the Nara River was completed by the evening of June 16, and approximately 200 men have been rounded up and are being interrogated.

Arms and ammunition recovered in the Sanghar area totalled 11 shot guns and 611 rounds, 2 revolvers and 47 rounds.

In the vicinity of Tando Mitho Khan, which is on the Nara River, 25 miles south-east of Sanghar, troops were again fired upon by Hurs concealed in the jungle country to the east of the Nara. No casualties are reported.

In the Shahdadpur area two dacoities have occurred, but otherwise all is quiet.

## DEFENCE OF VILLAGES

Inhabitants in outlying hamlets and homesteads in the martial law area in Sind are being encouraged to come to the larger villages for protection.

Plans to organise the defence of these villages include the issue of a quota of firearms where a responsible person is prepared to ensure the safety of the weapons issued.

Owing to the fact that many of the suspects apprehended have been armed with axes it has been found necessary to remove all axes from villages. Any incon-

venience thus at first caused to agricultural workers has been counteracted by allowing a pool of axes to be available in each village for purely agricultural purposes. These axes remain in the charge of responsible persons at night.

Except for a few cases where individuals have attempted to benefit themselves through its application, generally speaking, martial law has been well received throughout the area.

While plans are proceeding for the defence of villages, active military operations continue. A small gang of Hurs has been reported at Soojan, 22 miles south-east of Ghotki, and a patrol, operating eight miles south-east of Sakrand just before midnight recently, found a meeting being held in the centre of the village of Kumbhlima. Eighteen men were detained.

Two men carrying axes in the Mirpur Mathelo area were sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment. The two informers previously reported as having been sentenced to twelve months' rigorous imprisonment were convicted for giving false information.

## COLLECTIVE FINE FOR SABOTAGE

**A** new ordinance published on May 13, 1942, gives Provincial Governments power to impose a collective fine on the inhabitants of any area for certain offences affecting the efficient prosecution of war. The fine may be imposed if it appears to a Provincial Government that the inhabitants are concerned in or have abetted the commission of offences prejudicially affecting the defence of British India or the efficient prosecution of the war, or are harbouring persons concerned in the commission of such offences, or are failing to render all the assistance in their power to discover or apprehend the offenders, or are suppressing material evidence of the commission of such offences.

The class of offence which this ordinance has particularly in view is sabotage, specially of means of communication. The difficulty of preventing offences of this nature and of detecting and laying hands on the offenders, is greatly increased if the inhabitants of the area in which an offence is committed do not co-operate with the authorities, while it is of the greatest importance to the defence of the country that any cases of sabotage which do occur should be promptly and severely dealt with. Government hope that all classes of the population will realise their responsibility, in the interests of the country as a whole, for doing everything in their power to prevent sabotage in the district in which they live. In case they do not realise and act in accordance with this responsibility, however, Government must be prepared to bring it home to them in the last resort by the imposition of a penalty.

## RANGOON PORT (EMERGENCY PROVISIONS) ORDINANCE

The Governor of Burma has promulgated the Rangoon Port (Emergency Provisions) Ordinance, 1942, which provides for the carrying out of the provisions of the Rangoon Port Act, 1905, in the present emergency.

Under the Ordinance, the Governor of Burma will appoint persons who will, whether within or without Burma, exercise and discharge the powers and functions vested by the Act in the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon.

The Ordinance has been published in the *Burma Gazette* dated June 15, 1942.



# PERSONALITIES

## YOUNG GENERALS OF THE EIGHTH ARMY

**F**ive leading generals of the Eighth Army in Libya are all men in their forties.

**Major-General Frank Messervy**, aged 48, is commanding the 7th Tank Division, **Major-General Herbert Lumsden** (44) the 1st Tank Division, and **Major-General Danpienaar** (48) a South African formation. Two principal corps commanders, **Lieutenant Generals Willoughby Norrie** and **Gott**, are both in their forties.

**Lumsden** is one of the discoveries of this war. In the last, he served in the ranks for a long time before transferring to the 12th Lancers and deciding to make soldiering his career. With a handful of tanks—not many more than 20—Lumsden held a vital river bridge north of Dunkirk and held off an overwhelming force of Germans for two days while evacuation continued. It was one of the epic stories of the 12th Lancers and won the D.S.O. for their commander. He was a lieutenant-colonel 18 months ago. He was an amateur jockey of high professional standard—he rode several times in the Grand National—and is known in the desert as a fighting commander.

**Messervy** is a character. Six-foot-four, very thin, very quiet with big brown eyes, he is scarcely ever recognisable as a general. He wears odd clothes with a weakness for a battered service cap and an abnormally long scarf. He cannot be persuaded to wear a steel helmet, not even when shelling is the fiercest.

**Danpienaar** is the commander of "Danny's Boys", the gallant South Africans, who have held their ground around Gazala without yielding an inch and recently went out on a sortie to capture 150 prisoners and much material.

## DR. M. A. CHAGHTAI

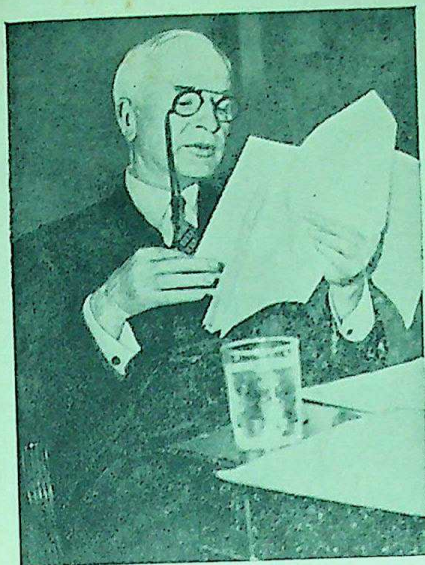
The Deccan College Post-graduate and Research Institute, Poona, has nominated **Dr. M. A. Chaghtai**, Reader in Mediaeval Indian History, as its representative on the Research and Publication Committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission in place of **Professor D. V. Potdar** who has been appointed an ordinary member of the Commission.

## MR. SHAMALDHARI LALL

**Mr. Shamaldhari Lall**, C.I.E., I.C.S., Deputy High Commissioner for India, London, has been elected Chairman of the Executive Council of the Imperial Agricultural Bureaux, London, in succession to the late **Dr. William Allen** (Canada).

This is the first time that a representative from India, or Burma has been elected Chairman of an Empire organisation of this kind.

The organisation consists of the maintenance by Governments of the British Commonwealth on a joint co-operative basis, of certain bureaux to collect, collate and disseminate information on research in selected branches of agricultural science, and generally to assist research workers in the Empire with information relevant to their subjects. **Sir David Chadwick** is the Secretary of the Council.



MR. CORDELL HULL, U. S. SECRETARY OF STATE

## MR. CORDELL HULL—AN AMERICAN PIONEER

**M**r. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State of the United States, is an American pioneer. He is a product of his country's fast-vanishing frontier, and he has brought with him to the field of international affairs the integrity, fearlessness, and forward-looking liberalism of his early environment.

When President Roosevelt, newly-elected in 1933, named Mr. Cordell Hull chief of his foreign service, he was then Senator Hull, of Tennessee. In his 62 years he had visited Europe only once, on a vacation trip with his wife in 1925. But he had been a diehard fighter for many years, in and out of season, for better trade relations throughout the world and lowered tariff barriers.

### Born In A Log Cabin

Mr. Hull's democratic, straightforward manner and his standards for judging men were fixed early by the rigid code of the plain people of the Great Smoky mountains. This region in the southern, inland part of the United States has a history of pioneer hardihood and brave exploits. He was born in the Tennessee mountains in a log cabin built by his father, of raw timber, one of ten children and the third of five sons.

Like Abraham Lincoln, who was also born in a log cabin, Mr. Hull first made his living from the timber of the backwoods. Lincoln split rails for fences. Mr. Hull rafted logs to market for his father, who owned modest timber holdings.

Young Hull obtained his early education, rudimentary enough, and his first law training through his own dogged, deliberate efforts. He resembles Lincoln in that also.

### A Hard Worker

Lights never go out these days in the State Department offices. A 16-hour day is not unusual for the Secretary of State. Endless, urgent work goes on night and day. The ornate, old-fashioned, gray stone building, located just across the street from the executive offices of the White House, has become world headquarters for democracy.

At times the world has seemed to explode across the desk of patiently plodding, white-haired, sombre Cordell Hull. He once remarked—in his soft Tennessee drawl which slurs the r's — "I sometimes think that my desk is the most dangerous place on this planet."

Two Japanese emissaries who sat nervously in Mr. Hull's outer office on December 7, 1941, while their country attacked Pearl Harbour, may share his conviction.

### Negotiated Many Trade Pacts

History may remember Mr. Cordell Hull longest for his achievements, against almost insurmountable difficulties, in negotiating trade agreements. Before war clouds blacked out trade horizons in 1940, his Division of Trade Agreements had negotiated pacts with 19 nations. These were the fruition of many years of persistent, stubborn work by Mr. Cordell Hull himself.

His political life is the story of a man of the people battling for liberal economic principles during 30 years in Congress. The last three years were spent in the United States Senate. For 12 solid years (1920-1932), his party was the minority party. His fight was hard. But Mr. Cordell Hull fought only the harder.

Congressman Hull initiated some of the most important tax legislation of the First World War years.

The United States' first federal income-tax system, precursor of others, was largely of his planning. The new method of taxation, bearing most heavily on the largest incomes, was an expression of Mr. Hull's liberal economy, of his oft-expressed belief that tax burdens must be shared equitably by those best able to pay.

Mr. Hull initiated America's Federal Estate and Inheritance Tax Act of 1916. And he was the first to advocate a surtax on interest from Liberty Bonds, securities which were largely purchased by the public during the First World War. The surtax prevented the bonds from becoming tax-exempt holdings of a comparatively small group.

### Good Neighbour Policy

Many people in the United States thought President Roosevelt would name Mr. Hull his Secretary of the Treasury, when he took office at the crisis of the 1933 financial depression. But Mr. Roosevelt, who had enunciated the Good Neighbour policy as part of his New Deal programme, knew exactly what he wanted from Mr. Cordell Hull when he made him Secretary of State.

The achievement of solidarity for the Western Hemisphere at the Rio de Janeiro Conference in January, 1942, vindicated his choice of a plain-speaking, plain-dealing man to put into operation with all possible speed a policy of good will toward the neighbouring American republics.

South Americans liked his way of taking off his coat and going straight to work when he came to the first Pan-American Conference at Montevideo in 1933. Their regard for the Secretary of State grew steadily through the series of conferences by which Western Hemisphere unity gradually was shaped and solidified.

Mr. Hull's father once remarked that his boy Cordell ought to make a good politician, because as a woodsman he never left a trail unless he wanted to. It is a trait that many men, including the diplomats of a war-beset world, have learned and pondered as events thrust the United States Department of State into a position of international leadership.



## ON THE A. I. R.

**DR. K. N. MATHUR FROM LUCKNOW: "SOVIET DEMOCRACY—INDUSTRIAL AND SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS":—**

The story of the development of Russia's polar territory is an epic of human endeavour. One-fourth of Russia is covered with snow and ice most of the year. Thus, one-fourth of the Soviet Union was until recently regarded as uninhabitable, inaccessible and useless—an area 30 times the size of Great Britain and one-and-a-half times as large as India. To develop this area, the U.S.S.R. sent an army of 40,000 men and women under a general staff of scientists and explorers. With the combined use of ice-breakers, motor sledges, aeroplanes and wireless the young Russian pioneers progressed with energy and enthusiasm, constructing radio stations, weather observation posts, air bases, fuel pumps, landing quays and repair shops along the entire Arctic coast line. This rendered navigation possible along the northern sea route during four months, and ships could come all the way round from Vladivostok to Murmansk. Trade could thus be maintained regularly during summer between Europe and Western Siberia, and between America and the far North-East. Timber cut in southern Siberia in the spring and rafted downstream during the summer, could be processed in the Arctic saw mills during the winter and shipped off the following year. The Arctic black-out which lasts day and night for six months was counteracted by flood-lighting the towns, and vegetable culture was carried on in underground hot-houses provided with central electric heating and ultra-violet are light. Russia's polar region has extremely valuable deposits of minerals and oils and these are all being worked.

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**Miss Jean J. Mackay from Dacca: "Japan adopts New Slogan—Children of the Sun Goddess":—**

Shintoism has been deliberately used by those in power in recent years to foster the aggressive national and racial prejudices which have dominated Japan's policy for so many years. As early as 1921, nationalism had become such a morbid growth that at the Washington Conference, the Limitation of Japanese navy was treated as a question of national dignity, Japan refusing to have a smaller navy than America or Britain because it was intolerable to her to admit inferiority of any sort to another power. She later opposed the Treaty of London on the same basis of national self-respect. It is not for nothing that worship at Shinto shrines was early made compulsory for soldiers and children.

It will be seen, too, that Shintoism, which is the basis of this racialism, is, if I may borrow the words of another historian, nothing but a conglomeration of superstitions that are an outrage to credulity, unredeemed by any of the essential moral and philosophical characteristics of the great religions of the world, Christianity, Mohammedanism, Buddhism and Hindu-

ism. It teaches the worship of ancestors, loyalty to the throne and a love of the land of Japan. Beyond that it does not go. Loyalty and love for one's country are in themselves sterling qualities, but they have their place. Loyalty must not be blind. Patriotism must not be chauvinistic. Yet it is these two things, blind loyalty and chauvinistic patriotism which, raised to the level of a religion, dominate Japan's home and foreign policy today. It is this which has inspired Japanese statesmen from the very first day of Japan's re-emergence from the obscurity in which she had long lain, with the ambition of making their country known and respected throughout the world. It is this which today is the driving power of her ambition to be supreme in Asia, and at the same time the greatest power on earth in all respects, military, political, industrial and commercial.

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**C. B. Rao from Lucknow: "Italy—a Vassal State":—**

Greece first awakened the Italians to the realities of things. Expecting to hammer their way through the land, the Italians were taken aback when the Greek armies showed their mettle and drove the invaders back. Not only were the armies of Il Duce driven out of the Greek territory they had penetrated but also out of parts of their own Albania. Things were definitely looking murky for Mussolini when Adolf decided to step in and haul him out of the marshes he had slipped and got entangled into. The Italian armies were saved, but Italian self-respect received a smashing blow.

It is said to have been remarked by Napoleon that Italy as a foe was a better ally than Italy as a friend. He said: "If Italy is your enemy you will have to send five divisions to crush her; if she is a neutral you will have to send ten divisions to watch her; but if she is your ally you will have to send twenty divisions to rescue her." The truth of this estimate began rapidly to dawn on Hitler. It was conclusively proved in the fighting in the Western Desert.

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**F. W. Bustin from Lahore: "China and the Allies":—**

It is possible that new China roads could be made and held; but the easier and more obvious way to help China in her present urgent need is so to employ the not inconsiderable forces now massed in India and further east as to force Japan to take the defensive and, in so doing, to draw in her already too lengthy horns of aggression. After all, growing Allied strength envisages the rapidly-approaching moment when we could, with every prospect of success, launch counter-offensives in each of the areas where Japan has staged her amazing drama of conquest. But the Doolittle raid on Japan herself points a finger to the path by which the Allies can secure their ends more speedily and more surely. If the Dutch East Indies were relieved of the Jap menace, if Malaya, Burma and Indo-China were cleared of Nippon's forces—we should still have to crack the nut of Japan itself. The better



Mr. W. H. Shoobert, Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs, gave a talk on "The Soldier's Mail" from A.I.R., Delhi

course, when it becomes practicable, as it must, will be to carry the war to Japan and thus compel her to recall her far-flung armies to her own protection or, alternatively, condemn them to death by starvation of those military stores which only Japan can supply.

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**Freda M. Bedi from Lahore: "New Russia—Women and Children in the U. S. S. R.":—**

The problem has arisen in Russia since 1920 about the need and efficacy of laws to protect women from what the world calls the infidelities of man. It has been held against the Soviet Union that, marriage and divorce being so easy, it must encourage looseness of morals. The only answer is in an analysis of the actual results of the new laws. Social observers and statisticians are unanimous that, excluding the few years of social unrest that followed the revolution, the record of Russia is neither better nor worse than that of the countries of the West where the woman is protected, or hampered, as your point of view happens to be, by strict marriage laws. It has been found that where the law gives freedom, public opinion, or social consciousness develops, and strict code of "what is done" and "what isn't done" tends to grow in society. For instance, a man living in one of the huge flat blocks in Moscow, where common dining rooms and playing fields encourage a very informal social life would be looked down upon if he showed too persistent a tendency to change his partner very frequently. The House Committee which governs the affairs of the house would have the power to expel him, and his reputation might follow him and prevent him from getting good accommodation elsewhere. In a country where salaries are not extravagant the economic sanction also works; a man cannot go round indiscriminately having wives and children because the State will insist on his paying a substantial proportion of his salary for each child up to the age of eighteen years. And in the last instance there is much greater protection for women in a sound and vocal public opinion than in an obsolete law which may or may not be observed.



# WEIGHTS, MEASURES—COINAGE—GLOSSARY—POINTS ABOUT INDIA

## WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Weights and measures in India vary not only from district to district but also for different commodities.

The principal units in all the scales of weights are the maund, seer and tola, and the standard weights for each of these are 82.28 lbs., 2.057 lbs. and 180 grains troy respectively.

The Indian tola is the same weight as the rupee, viz., 180 grains troy; the standard or railway seer is equal to 2.057 lbs. while the standard or railway maund of 40 seers is equivalent to 82 lbs. 4 oz. 9 drams. There are numerous local variations.

## COINAGE—RUPEE IN DOLLARS AND POUNDS

Re. 1 is approximately 1 sh. 6d. or 30.05 cents.

Rs. 100 are approximately £7/9/6 or \$30.05.

Rs. 1,000 are approximately £74/14/10 or \$300.53.

Rs. 1,00,000 (a lakh) are approximately £7,473/19/2 or \$30,053.

Rs. 1,00,00,000 (a crore) are approximately £747,395/16/8 or \$3,005,259.

100,000 is one lakh (1,00,000)

10,000,000 is one crore (1,00,00,000)

### COINAGE

3 pies are 1 piece.

4 piece are 1 anna.

16 annas are 1 rupee.

## GLOSSARY OF SOME COMMON INDIAN TERMS

Khan	~ A Pathan chief or nobleman; a Pathan title.
Khalsa	~ Lit. 'pure,' 'society of the pure,' founded by Guru Govind Singh, is now equivalent to the Sikh community.
Khas	~ Personal; private; reserved; state-owned.
Kisan	~ An agriculturist; a farmer.
Kumar	~ A prince; Rajkumar, son of an Indian Raja.
Lascar	~ An Indian seaman; a sailor.
Madrasa	~ A Muslim High School.
Mahajan	~ A money-lender; a merchant.
Maulana	~ An erudite Muslim; a Muslim scholar.
Moulvi	~ A learned person (Muslim).
Mazdoor	~ A labourer.
Mela	~ A fair; an exhibition.
Mistri	~ A mechanic; mason; carpenter or foreman.
Mofussil	~ The interior of a district or province as distinguished from the headquarters.
Nawab	~ Muslim ruler or chief; a title.
Nawabzada	~ Son of a Nawab (zada, a son).
Paddy	~ Rice in the husk.
Pucca	~ Ripe; mature; cooked; made of brick (as applied to a house); regular; correct; proper; expert.
Panchayat	~ A committee for the management of the affairs of a village or a caste; theoretically the committee consists of five (panch) men.
Pandit (or Pundit)	~ A Hindu title, applied to a person versed in the Hindu scriptures. A Brahmin scholar.
Purdah	~ A veil or curtain; the practice of keeping women in seclusion.
Puja	~ Worship ( <i>pujari</i> , a priest).
Peon	~ Bearer; orderly.
Pir	~ A Muslim saint or religious teacher.
Pleader	~ A lawyer; a legal practitioner.
Raiyat (or Ryot)	~ A farmer; an agriculturist.
Sabha	~ Assembly; meeting.
Sadhu	~ A Hindu ascetic.
Sadar	~ The headquarters of a district.
Sanad	~ A charter or grant; a deed of grant.
Sannyasi	~ A Hindu ascetic or mendicant.
Sardar (or Sirdar)	~ Leader; headman; a Sikh title.
Sarkar (or Sircar)	~ A manager or accountant; the Government.
Satyagraha	~ Passive resistance (literally, insistence on or acceptance of truth).
Shroff	~ A Banker (commonly used in Bombay).
Swadesi	~ Of one's own country; made in India.
Tahsil (or Tehsil)	~ A revenue sub-division of a district. (Hence "Tehsildar," the officer in charge of a tehsil).
Taluk	~ A revenue sub-division or holding; an estate. (Hence "Talukdar," one who holds a taluk).
Tola	~ A measure of weight (equivalent to 180 grains troy).
Vakil	~ An advocate; a lawyer.
Zemindar	~ A landholder. (Hence "Zemindari," an estate).
Zenana	~ Female; feminine; women's apartments.

## POINTS ABOUT INDIA

Viceroy—H. E. The Marquess of Linlithgow, K.T., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., O.B.E., D.L., T.D.



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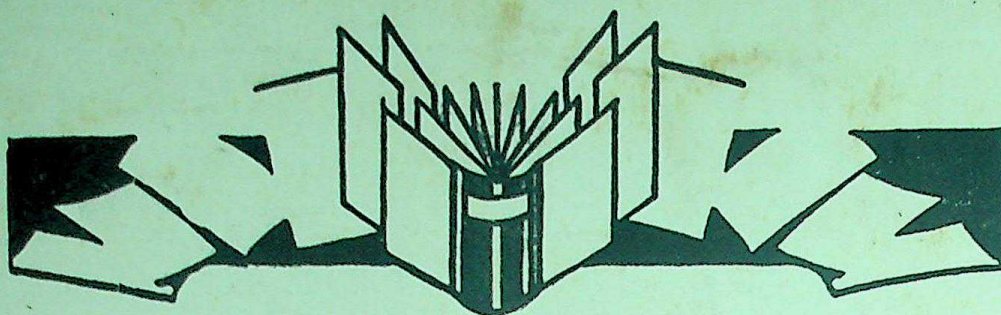
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# INDIAN INFORMATION

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• DUKE OF GLOUCESTER'S BROADCAST

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## They Said

“ We are all serving in a common cause that justice and truth and kindness in which we all believe may prevail, and that thereby we may be able to return to our homes and to peaceful lives.”—*H. R. H. the Duke of Gloucester's message to H. E. the Commander-in-Chief in India.*



“ It is to be regretted that in some countries the radio, which is intended to be for the pleasure, instruction and benefit of mankind, is used merely for evil purposes and for deceiving the people. Just consider how Germany ever since she started this war, and even before that when she was preparing for it, has used the radio for false propaganda. They have used it not only to deceive their own people, but also to stir up trouble in other countries, and thus weaken them so that Germany can then easily take possession of them. Indeed, in this war, along with other new weapons such as tanks, guns, and other machines, Germany has invented another weapon, the weapon of falsehood. Japan has now followed Germany's example. They issue news in their own language, in English, in Urdu—and all their news is manufactured in a factory of lies ; as false as false coins issued from a counterfeiter's workshop ”—*H. E. Sir George Cunningham, Governor of North-West Frontier Province, in a broadcast from Peshawar, July 16.*



“ Let there be no doubt in the minds of our enemies; whether the struggle will be long or short, we, together with our Allies, are in this war to a victorious end. No temporary setback or disappointment, nor even lost battles, can alter our resolution to continue the fight against the Dictator Powers until all are finally disarmed and rendered powerless to do further injury to mankind.”—*Mr. Anthony Eden, Nottingham, July 23.*



“ We cannot win the war by standing on our borders and limiting ourselves to beating off attack. Air, submarine and other forms of assault could be effectively defeated only if those attacked sought out and destroyed the sources of attack.”—*Mr. Cordell Hull in a broadcast from Washington, July 23.*



Vol. II, No. 99

## INDIAN INFORMATION

August 15, 1942

INDIAN  
INFORMATION  
IS A  
REFERENCE  
RECORD

**AIMS:**—To provide a condensed record of the main peace and war activities of the Government of India, together with some outstanding facts about the British Government's war activities. INDIAN INFORMATION does not compete with the Press; it exists for their convenience and is not intended for general circulation among the public.

**PUBLIC:**—All those persons and institutions whose general role is to inform the public, *e.g.*, the public administrator, whether he be governmental (Central or Provincial), municipal, commercial, educational or institutional, the editor, the publisher, the journalist and the publicist.

**FORMAT:**—Headings, sub-titles and bold face passages are inserted to facilitate reading, but they should not in themselves necessarily be considered as expressions of official opinion or emphasis.

**CONTRIBUTIONS:**—Many MSS. are submitted to us which we regretfully return; since everything published in INDIAN INFORMATION emanates from an official source, it follows that non-official contributions cannot be accepted.

Any Item May Be Reproduced Without Acknowledgment.

ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY BY J. NATARAJAN, PRINCIPAL INFORMATION OFFICER,  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA. ASSOCIATE EDITOR, CECILIE LESLIE.

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USE TRENCH MORTAR IN THE  
WESTERN DESERT.

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GIRL FROM THE COTTON GROWING  
COUNTRY NEAR BOMBAY WITH A  
LOAD OF NEWLY HARVESTED COTTON





## ♦ FACTS AND FIGURES ♦

In Turkey when a journalist attains a certain degree of renown and is Editor of a well-known paper, he becomes, at the first election to provide a suitable vacancy, a deputy and member of the Medjlis. He then becomes connected with various committees and especially with the Foreign Affairs Committee. Thus in Ankara both the Editor and Foreign Editor of the Government newspaper *Ulus*, B. Falih Rifki Atay and B. Shukru Esmer, are members of the Committee. If they write, their writings are generally associated with the Government.

By the end of this year there will be 14,000,000 men and women engaged in industries of war in the United States, exclusive of those engaged in producing food or supplies for civilian needs, according to Brigadier-General Frank McSherry, Director of the Man-power Operations Commission.

By the end of 1942 the United States Army Air Force plans to have 1,000,000 officers and men, with an eventual strength of 2,000,000, according to Major-General Barton Yount, Commanding General, Flying Training Command.

Under the Tsars, Stalingrad—Tsaritsin then—was a dirty little provincial town of log houses, unpaved streets and booths which sold liquor to Volga boatmen, and saw mills which handled the undeveloped timber trade from the forest up the river. Then came progress, and Stalingrad is now an industrial centre, one of the biggest on the Volga: 400,000 people live there.

The rate of recruitment to the Indian Medical Service has been about 50 officers per month for the last few months. This is more than three times the average monthly rate during the last war.

Lease Lend aid during June amounted to \$708,000,000, the highest monthly total since the programme came into effect. This compares with \$662,000,000 in May. The grand total since the beginning of the programme now amounts to \$5,205,000,000.

General MacArthur has always been a front-line General. He came out of World War I twice wounded, once gassed, seven times cited for extraordinary valour, 37 times decorated with Allied honours. He now holds America's highest military decoration, the Congressional Medal of Honour.

Every one of the National Red Cross organisations uses the emblem of the Red Cross, which was originally chosen as being the reverse of the Swiss flag—a white cross on a red background—but in some Muslim countries the Red Crescent has been used, and in Iran the Red Lion and Sun.

The Indian Red Cross has been paying for 3,000 food parcels which have been packed every week in India House, London, for despatch to Indian prisoners of war.

The Indian textile industry has agreed to place 35 per cent of its production at the disposal of the Government of India as against 20 per cent hitherto.

Contributions to the Bangalore Civil and Military Station War Fund now total Rs. 5,00,000, which is equivalent to over Rs. 3 per head of the population.

The "People of India Mobile Canteen," organised by the Church Army with the financial help given by H.E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, has continued to give valuable help to men of isolated units in England. During the current year, up to the middle of April last, it had travelled 37,896 miles and served 258,860 men. The work of the organisation continues to expand steadily. Besides new mobile canteens—they are now over 160—it has two mobile libraries.

The Indian Ocean forms a vast equilateral triangle with its apex in India and its base running from South Africa to Western Australia. The sides of this triangle measure 4,000 miles and they enclose a mighty sheet of water with the British Dominions in two corners and with the third corner occupied by India.

The Indian Princes continue to pour money, men and material into the war effort. In regard to money, the non-recurring contributions offered up to the end of April, 1942, amounted approximately to Rs. 3,10,30,000 and the recurring donations (annual figure) promised stood at about Rs. 36,64,000.

During the fortnight ending May 31, 1942, the Polish Relief Committee, India, received Rs. 50,000, and Rs. 39,500 was paid to the War Victims Fund in East Asia from H.E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund.

The Government of India's scheme for the issue of identity discs for the civil population has been accepted by a number of provinces. This system of personal identification is commonplace in countries liable to air attack. Possession of a disc, ensures compensation and pensions for dependants of air raid victims; in the absence of a disc, it might prove difficult for dependants to substantiate a claim. Compensation for dependants can, therefore, be ensured for one anna—the suggested price of a disc. The discs are covered with red cellulose paint and bored with two holes so that they can either be hung round the neck or tied to the wrist or arm. The discs are stamped with a series of numbers from 1 to 9,999, each series of numbers being preceded by a letter of the alphabet. Each alphabetical series, therefore, covers roughly 260,000 discs.

India possesses roughly 100,000 acres of teak plantations, which are being increased at the rate of about 5,000 acres per year. Teak is planted by means of root and shoot cuttings (called 'stumps') and to plant up her annual extension of 1,500 acres, Madras alone needs some 2,000,000 to 2,500,000 of these stumps every year.

All India Radio now broadcasts from 16 transmitters in 22 languages for about 80 hours a day. Its daily news service alone takes up over 500 minutes.

The total amount of Sterling purchased by the Reserve Bank of India from September 1, 1939 to March 31, 1942, aggregated £195,123,000 (Rs. 260 crores).

Prior to the war, only five firms in the United Provinces were engaged in the production of Army tents. In 1940 new centres of production were established, resulting in the setting up of 53 new factories in various parts of India.

It is estimated that some 500,000 workers of all classes—tailors, *mochis*, rope-makers, supervisors and other staff—are now directly employed in the manufacture of tentage in India.

The U. S. War Department discloses that one-fourth of its civilian employees are women. They are working in both technical and supervisory fields.

Indian Commissioned Officers in the Army now are considerably larger in number than the total number of officers, Indian and British, before the war.



## INDIAN INFORMATION

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 15, 1942

VOL. II, NO. 99



THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER INSPECTS A GUARD OF HONOUR OF NAVAL PERSONNEL WHEN HE VISITED AN R.I.N. SHIP

# INDIAN UNITY

## H.R.H. DUKE OF GLOUCESTER'S APPEAL TO THE NATION

**H**is Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, broadcasting from the Delhi Station of A.I.R. on July 16, 1942, said:

When I spoke to you a little more than a month ago, I said that I hoped I might speak to you again.

My tour of India and Ceylon is now ended, and I must bid you good-bye. It has been a crowded month, and although a month is not long enough to see as much, and to meet as many people as I should have liked, I have had, in the last few weeks, a great deal of varied and interesting experience, and I should like to tell you something of my impressions.

I have travelled mostly by air, but long distances, too, by train and motor car. I have covered practically the entire length and breadth of India and Ceylon, from Karachi to Calcutta, from Colombo to the Khyber Pass. I think I have sampled some of the worst of India's summer weather, in heat, dust and rain, but there has been ample compensation in the beauty of some

of the places I have seen. Wherever I went I was most kindly received, and I hope I may claim to have made new friends among the many men and women I have met.

I have also seen something of the great military preparations which are gathering strength throughout this country and Ceylon, and of that I shall have more to say presently.

It is my great regret that I have not been able to visit all the Provinces of British India or more of the Indian States. I wish, too, that I had been able to spend a longer time in the places where I was able to go.

### Impressions

To travel so fast and so far may have its disadvantages, but for one who, like myself, came to see India at war, it has one positive advantage which may be denied to some whose experience, though longer and more intimate than mine, is limited to a part of the country only. It gives a complete and comprehensive picture;

and I, at least, take away with me certain very vivid impressions.

The first thing that struck me was that India is a country fashioned by Nature to be united. Divided against herself she would be weak: united she can be great and powerful beyond measure. While uniformity is not to be expected in such a vast country, where there is room for differences of race, religion, language, and custom, unity is a necessity; and it seemed to me that already there are strong influences at work, breaking down the barriers of division and emphasising the fundamental unity of the country. Of these influences the strongest today is the war.

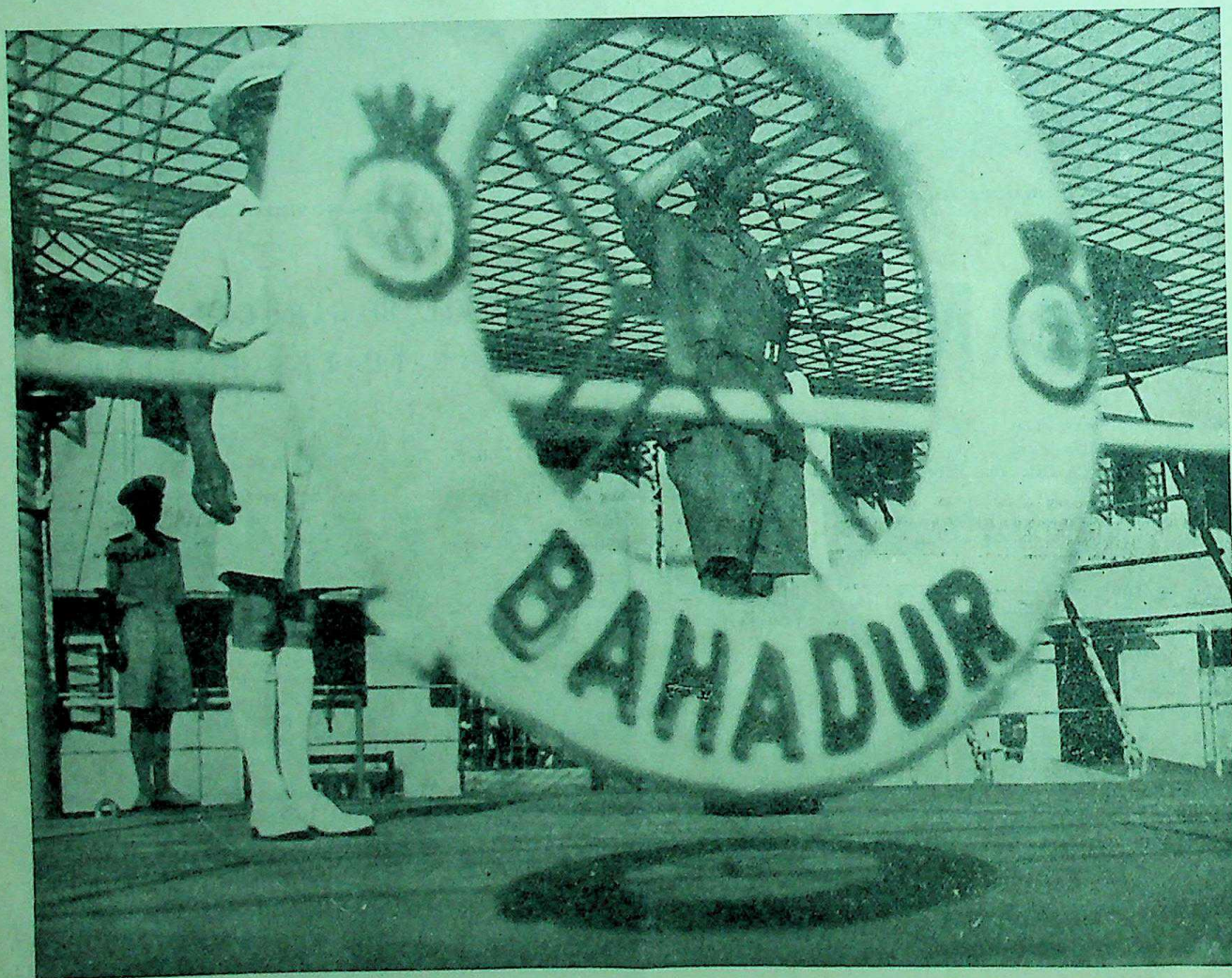
That brings me to my second clear impression. From end to end of India, wherever I went, and in Ceylon, I found among the people whom I met, and in hundreds of letters which I received, one prevailing idea—a determination to win the war, and an absolute confidence that we shall win it. I believe that the strength

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 133]





SIX INDIAN SQUADRON LEADERS OF I.A.F. WERE PRESENTED TO THE DUKE DURING HIS VISIT TO AN AERODROME SOMEWHERE IN INDIA



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS TAKES THE SALUTE ON BOARD H.M.I.S. "BAHADUR", R.I.N.'S SENIOR BOYS' TRAINING ESTABLISHMENT, KARACHI



## THE DUKE PRESENTS COLOURS TO THE INDIAN AIR FORCE

An impressive and novel ceremony was performed on July 12, at Risalpur by His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester who recently toured India and Ceylon. His Royal Highness, on behalf of His Majesty the King-Emperor, presented the I.A.F. Ensign and General Badge to the Indian Air Force.

Officers, airmen cadets and technical experts of the I.A.F. from all over India attended the ceremony. Owing to the fact that the Indian Air Force squadrons are engaged at present in operational duties against the enemy, their representation was somewhat restricted.

### A "Fly Past"

Air Marshal Sir R. E. C. Peirse, Air Officer Commanding the Air Forces in India, and other high officials took part in the ceremony. During the presentation, squadrons of the Indian Air Force flew past the saluting base. On the parade ground the band of a famous Indian regiment was present.

The Ensign and Badge of I.A.F. which is in gold, blue and red is contained in an oak frame on a background of parchment and in the top lefthand corner it is signed by H.M. the King-Emperor.

The Duke addressed the parade, and in conclusion the Guard-of-Honour gave a Royal salute.

### THE DUKE'S BROADCAST

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 131]

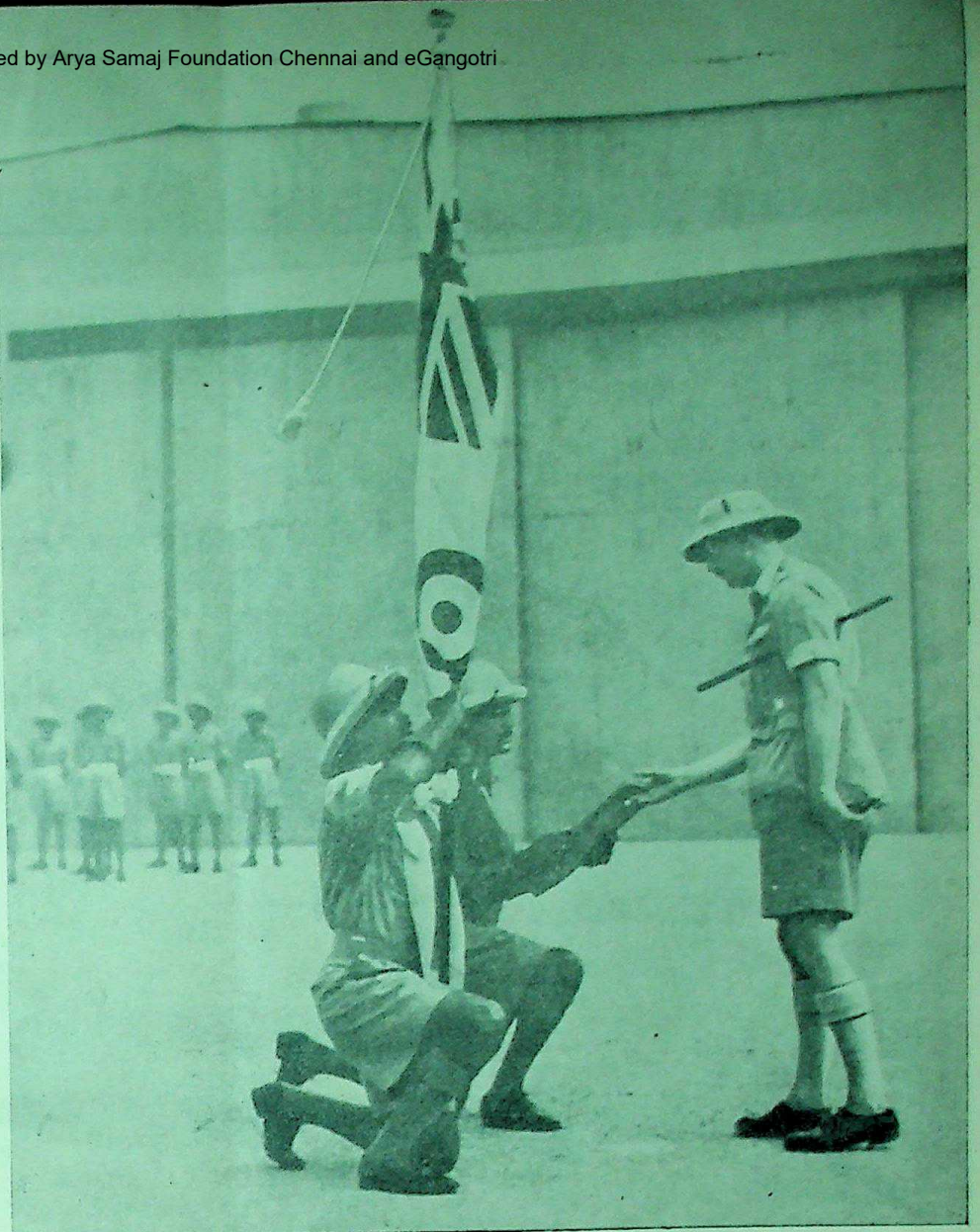
and the extent of this feeling is not fully realised, in India itself or outside, perhaps because it is not sufficiently vocal. The few who doubt and are afraid, make themselves heard; the many who are putting all their energies into the war effort, are silent and get on with their job. But these are the men and women whom I came to meet and hoped to encourage, and I am glad to think that they are finding cohesion and expression now through the National War Front, a movement which is doing a great service to India. The voice of the loyal millions of India must be heard. They must let the world know, as so many of them have let me know, that the heart of India is as bold and determined as any of her mighty Allies, as Britain, as the United States, Russia, China, and all the great company of the United Nations, the most powerful alliance the world has ever seen.

### "Great Military Strength"

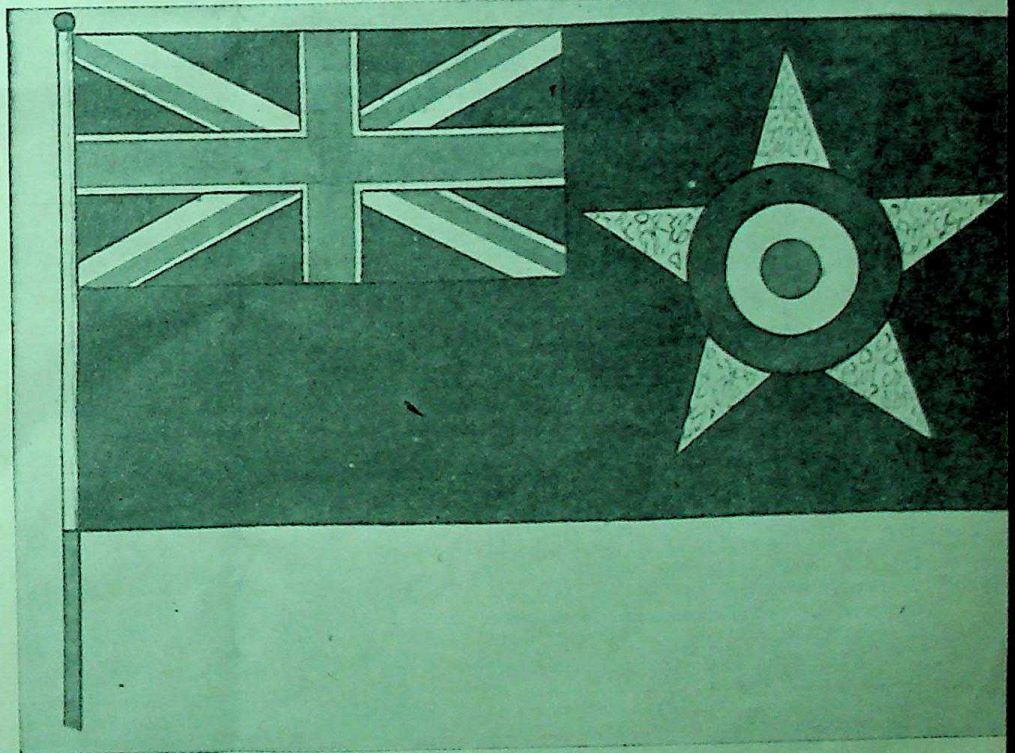
My third clear impression was of the great military strength of India and Ceylon today.

You have heard Mr. Winston Churchill say that there are stronger armed forces in India now than there have ever been in the history of the British connection. I have seen these forces in India and Ceylon. I have seen their spirit and their quality; I have seen the defences which they are manning, and I have seen the civil defence workers behind them. In modern war no country is invulnerable, but India and Ceylon are strong fortresses against which the enemy, if he comes, will break his strength. And what is more important, when the welcome day arrives for our armed forces to move forward and seek out the enemy, wherever he is, whoever he may be, they will defeat and destroy him.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1942



THE DUKE PRESENTED THE ENSIGN AND BADGE OF I.A.F. AT RISALPUR ON JULY 12



The Ensign of the Indian Air Force is officially described as follows: "An Ensign of light blue, in the dexter Canton the Union and in the centre of the fly a diamond star surmounted by three roundels superimposed red upon white upon blue."



# DUKE OF GLOUCESTER IN INDIA

*Approved*  
*George R.I.*



College of Arms  
August 5, 1940.

*J. O. Hudson - Armstrong*

Chief Herald  
and Inspector of Indian  
Air Force Badges.

The general badge of the Indian Air Force, presented by His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester at Risalpur on July 12, is designed in gold, blue and red on a white parchment background. It is contained in an oak frame

When I say that, I do not rely only on my own judgment. I have spoken to the men who have fought the Japanese. They have learned their tricks, and with them it is not a case of thinking; they *know* that when they meet the Japanese again, on anything like equal terms, they can beat them. And what they can do to the Japanese, they can do to the Germans and Italians too.

The naval, military and air forces now in India and in Ceylon are a formidable combination. British, Dominion and Allied forces are here, and here are your own incomparable Indian troops, from all parts of India, and from Nepal, that most steadfast ally of the British Crown; troops, who, drawn from every community, but fighting side by side, and with British comrades,



The Duke inspected pilots and their planes during his visit to Ceylon

have already won some of the finest battle honours of all time.

## The Right Spirit

So, my friends, I ask you to put your trust in them and in yourselves. In my brother's message which I brought to you a month ago, he appealed for goodwill and co-operation. I have found them in India, but there can never be too much of them in the world; nor, if we would have victory soon, can there be too much of confidence, courage and determination.

When I was in Hyderabad, I was handed a poem in Urdu, addressed to the Germans. Three lines of it ran:—

"Have you forgotten the last great war?"

"The higher you soared, the greater was your fall."

"Do you remember how we defeated you?"

That is the right spirit, and India must be full of it. When things are going not so well, and doubt or uncertainty rises like a mist before your eyes, it is good to remember the certainties of this war. The certainty of the unconquerable spirit of your allies, the heroes of Dunkirk and the defenders of Britain; the certainty of the magnificent resistance of the armies of Russia and of China; the certainty of the superb courage and the inexhaustible resources of the United States; the certainty of the heroism of your own splendid fighting men; the certainty of victory. By backing these certainties with every atom of your power and will, you in India and Ceylon can bring the hour of victory near. Every hour by which the war can be shortened means the saving of hundreds of lives, and of suffering to millions of people.

No one can afford to think: "This is someone else's war: this is nothing to do with me." It is in every sense a world war. There is not a nation, whether the war was of its seeking or not, untouched by it. There is not a man, woman or child alive who does not, in some way, feel its influence; and generations unborn will be affected by its outcome. No one can afford to stand aside and be a spectator. It is a struggle between the forces of progress and of retrogression, of civilisation and barbarism, of light and darkness. With their precious heritage, their gifts to the world of philosophy, art and culture, can any one doubt on which side India and Ceylon stand?

Then lay aside your differences and stand together as one man and fight this fight out, by the side of your friends and allies. Fight for your homes, your posterity, and your culture. This terrible war can only end with our victory, utter and complete.

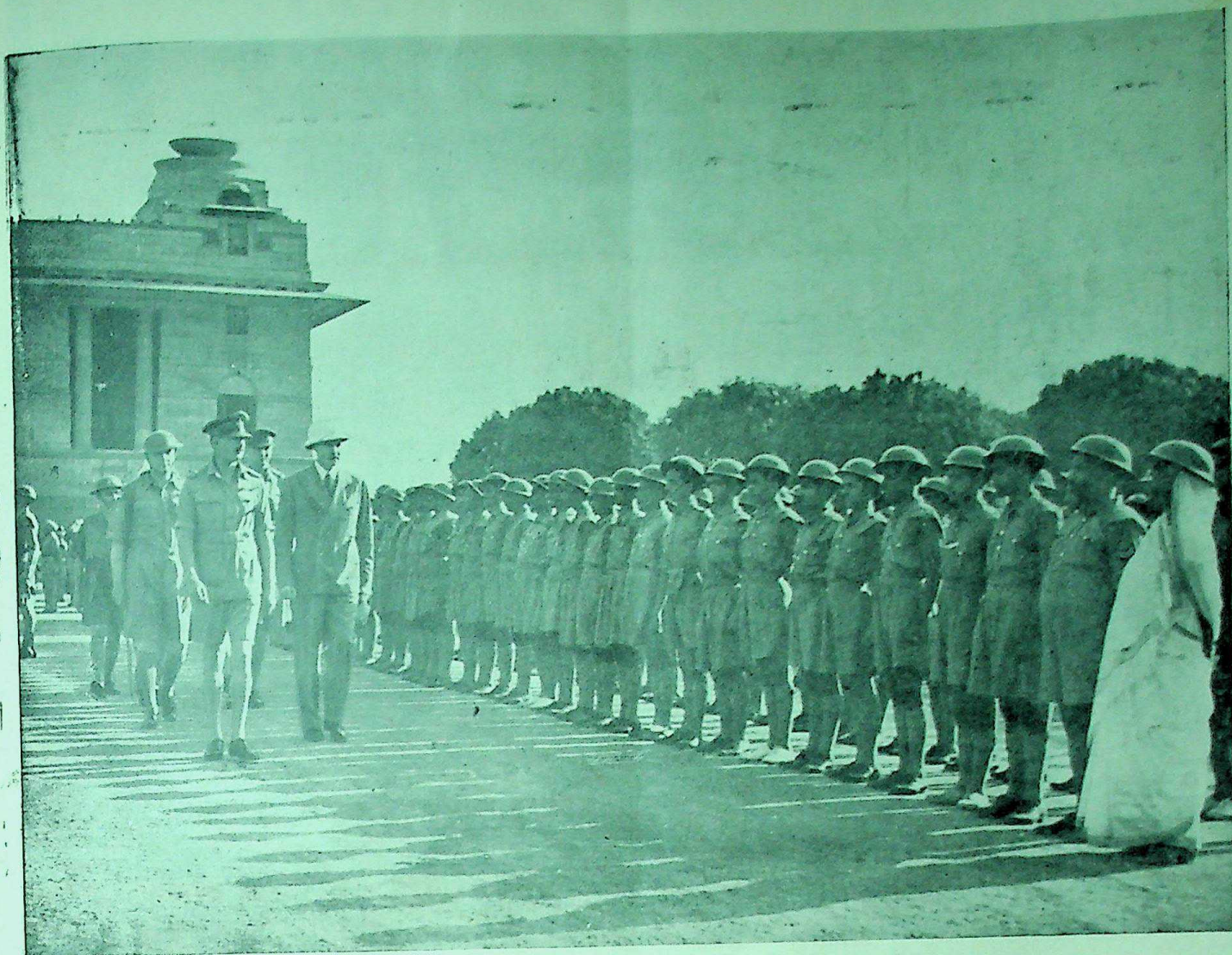
Fascism, Nazism and the treacherous power-lust of Japan must be buried in a pit so deep that they can never rise to torment the world again. The more of us that help to dig that grave and the harder each one of us digs, the sooner will the task be done.

And when our immediate task is over, I dare hope we shall discover that goodwill and co-operation have become a habit, and we, the people of the United Nations, will not find it difficult to continue our work side by side, to build the world and our mutual relationships anew, in an imperishable spirit of comradeship engendered by our common endeavour and our common sacrifice today.

Good-bye and good luck to you all.

INDIAN INFORMATION AUGUST 15, 1942





DUKE OF GLOUCESTER, FOLLOWED BY MR. A. V. ASKWITH, CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF DELHI PROVINCE, INSPECTS DELHI A.R.P. WARDENES ON PARADE

## THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER INSPECTS CIVIL DEFENCE SERVICES OF DELHI

**H**is Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester inspected a parade of Delhi's Civil Defence Services held on the morning of July 15, in the forecourt of the Viceroy's House, New Delhi.

Over a thousand men and women—policemen, firemen and civilians—stood drawn up in five platoons in the forecourt, awaiting inspection by Lieut.-General His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester.

In the ranks of the Volunteer Wardens, officials stood shoulder to shoulder with their own clerks and chappassis and with sellers of betel-nut, coolies, tonga drivers, leather workers and members of the Fourth Estate.

Other Services represented were the Messenger Service, Casualty and Rescue Services, the Delhi Civic Guard, the municipal fire-brigades of both Delhi and New Delhi, and police recruits. The Delhi Police Band was in attendance. In the rear were parked fire appliances, A.R.P. vehicles and Casualty Service vehicles.

At the foot of the stairs, H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester took the Royal Salute, buglers of the Delhi Police Band sounding the General Salute.

The parade stood at ease while Mr. A. V. Askwith, I.C.S., Chief Commissioner, presented to His Royal Highness the following officers concerned with Civil Defence in Delhi:—

Mr. W. F. G. LeBailly, I.C.S., Deputy Commissioner; Mr. D. Kilburn, Senior Superintendent of Police; Mr. F. J. Scott, Air Raid Precautions Officer for Delhi; Lt.-Col. M. M. Cruickshank, Chief Medical Officer, Delhi Province (as Officer-in-Charge of the Casualty Branch of the A.R.P. Service); the Chief Warden (Rai Bahadur Lala Nathu Ram); Divisional Wardens (Khan Bahadur Haji Rashid Ahmad, Khan Bahadur Mahmood Zaidi, Mr. Sri Ram, Lala Hari Chand, Mr. M. B. Clemens, Mr. J. S. Hardman, I.C.S., and Mrs. A. P. Hume); Mr. A. W. H. Dean, Additional Chief Engineer, Central Public Works Department (as Officer-in-Charge of the Rescue Branch) and Mr. T. A. Meade Falkner, Communications Officer.

After His Royal Highness had inspected the parade, he returned to the foot of the Great Stairway where he again received the Royal Salute. His Royal Highness then re-entered the Viceroy's House and the parade marched off in detachments.

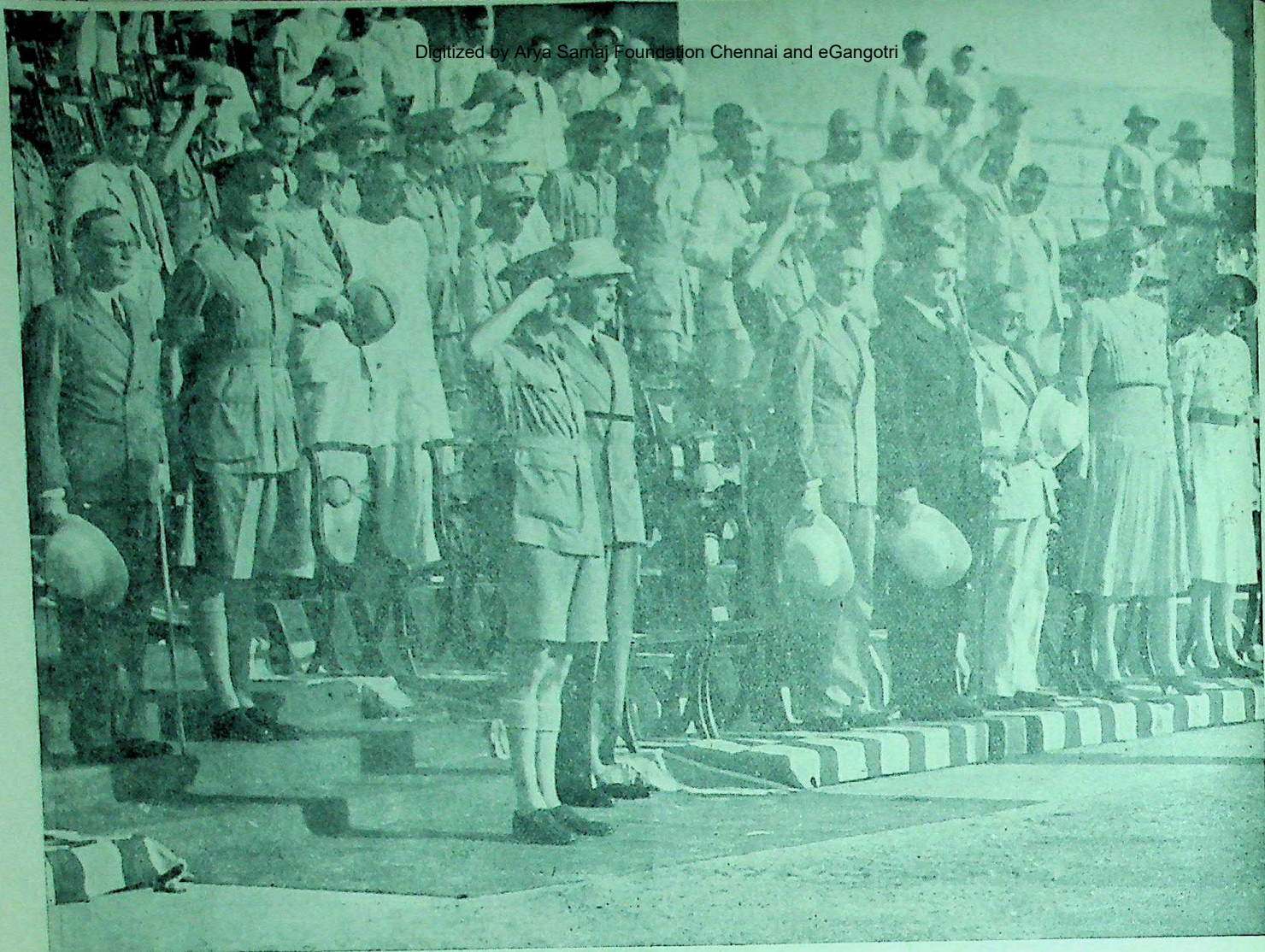
Her Excellency the Marchioness of Linlithgow, Mr. A. W. Ibbotson, Director-General of Civil Defence in India, Lt.-Gen. Sir Gordon Jolly, Director-General of the Indian Medical Service, and a large crowd of spectators—both official and non-official—watched the proceedings with interest. Officers of the Civil Defence Department were among those present.

### A.R.P. Services On Parade

**AIR RAID WARDENS' SERVICE:** There will be great need in time of air raids for persons of influence, courage and personality, with a sound knowledge of the locality, to advise and help their neighbours and generally to serve as a link between the public and the authorities. To provide for this, the Air Raid Wardens' Service has been organised.

A warden's duties are, in some respects, allied to those of the Police. He assists in enforcing the rules for concealment of light, recruits volunteers for Civil Defence and Air Raid Precautions Services and gives general assistance and guidance to members of the public before, during and after air raids. But undoubtedly the most essential part of his duty is to educate the inhabitants of his sector in air raid precautions.





THE DUKE TAKES THE ROYAL SALUTE AT THE PARADE WHICH WAS HELD IN THE FORECOURT OF THE VICEROY'S HOUSE

A warden has to tour his sector at regular intervals, noting points which may prove of value in an air raid as, for example, places where people can take shelter, or the location of empty houses where fires may occur unreported. He also studies his sector in the hours of darkness, so that he can find his way about without hesitation.

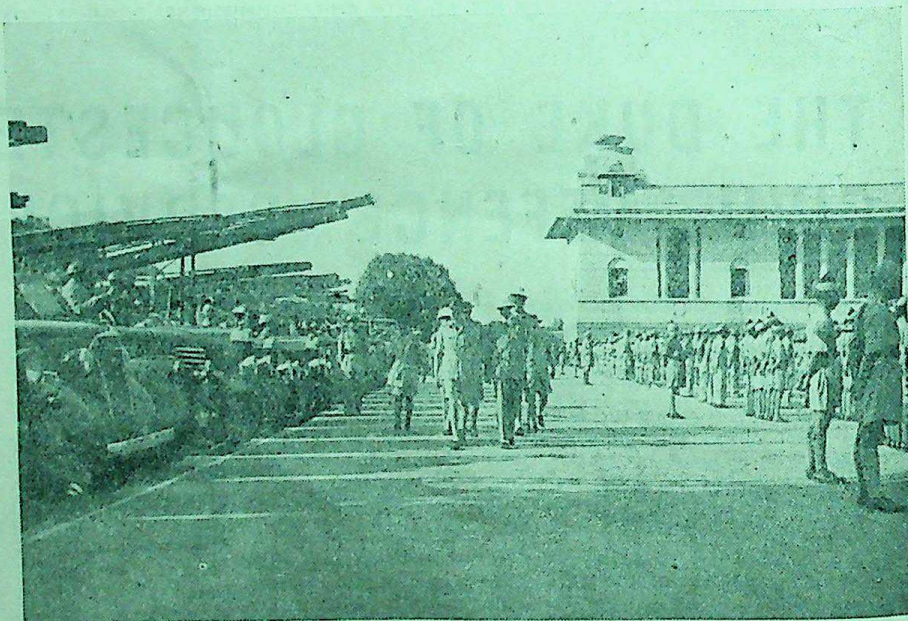
When the siren sounds the public warning, the warden patrols his sector. In some places, in which the air raid warning signal may be inaudible, the warden may use a visual signal to warn the public to take cover, namely, both arms raised above the head and waved, or any other method decided upon locally. Every occupier of a building or premises is expected, on demand by a Police Officer or A.R.P. Warden, to admit any person seeking shelter during the period of an attack.

When incendiary bombs fall, the police and wardens will blow short blasts on their whistles. The warden reports serious outbreaks of fire to the fire-brigade. He assesses air raid damage and reports it concisely and correctly to the Report Centre and guides and assists the A.R.P. Services in dealing with it.

The warden supplements the "raiders passed" signal with two long blasts on the whistle, repeated at intervals of five seconds.

#### Messengers' Service

Outdoor messengers are an essential part of the Air Raid Precautions Organisation and provide an alternative means of communication in case of a breakdown of the telephone service. The Control Centre may require to communicate with wardens, Report Centres, A.R.P. Depots, Incident Officers, Police, Fire Service and

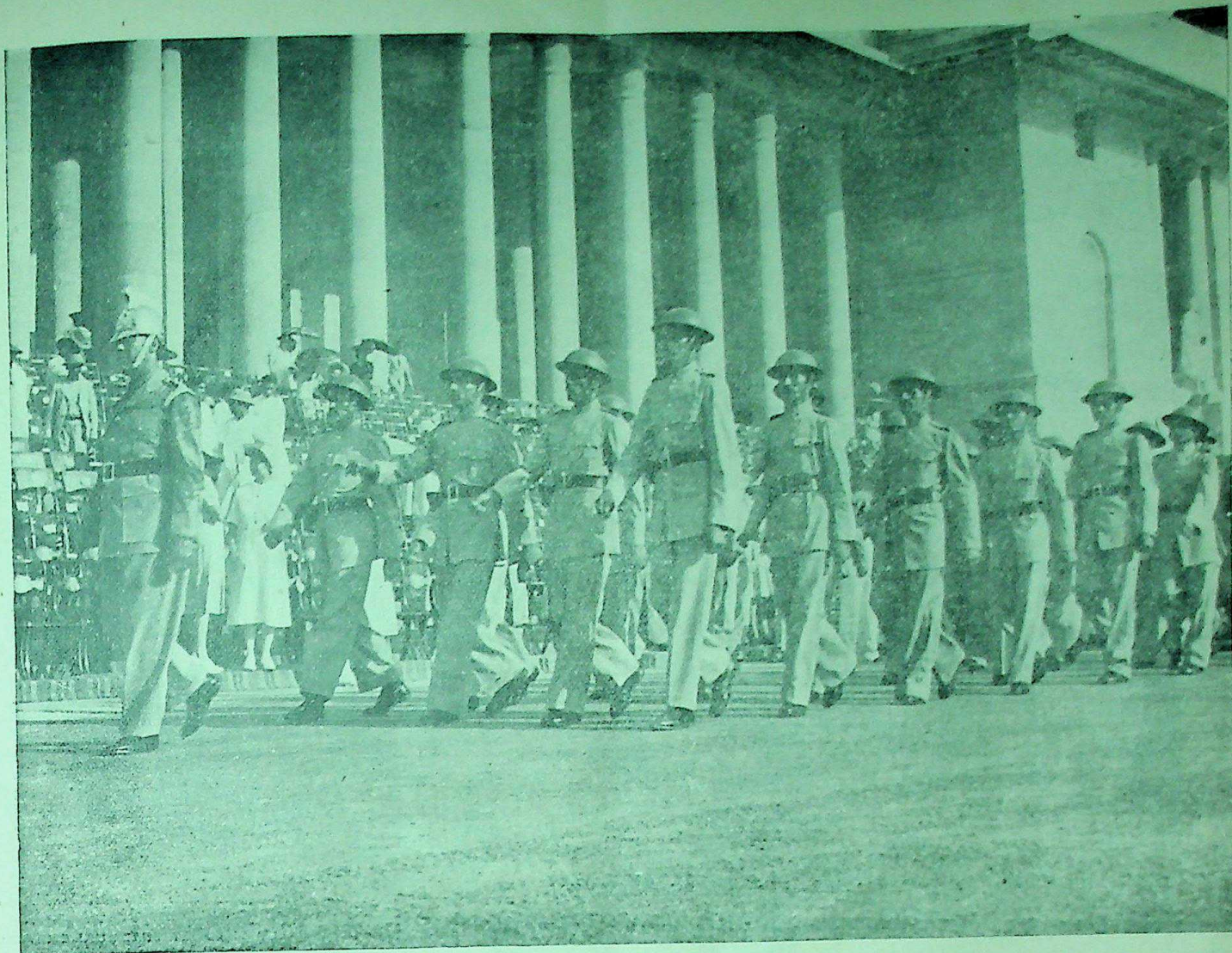


HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS ALSO INSPECTED DELHI'S FIRE-BRIGADE

public utilities. Messengers, who form links in the organisation, are posted at hospitals, depots, first-aid posts, wardens' posts, etc. Full use is being made of the Boy Scouts organisations. Each messenger is given a bicycle; but a proportion of motor bicycles may be necessary when the warden's service relies on the use of messengers for posts where no telephones exist. Motorists can also help by placing their cars and their personal services, if possible, at the disposal of this important organisation.

The civilian casualty service consists of the hospital organisation (casualty receiving hospitals in vulnerable areas and base hospitals in safer areas), the ambulance service (ambulances and cars for sitting cases, namely, those with slight injuries), first-aid parties, and first-aid posts (which may be either mobile or fixed). These mobile first-aid posts consist of a complete first-aid medical unit ready to proceed to the scene of major air raid damage and give immediate medical attention and





A DETACHMENT OF THE DELHI FIRE-BRIGADE MARCHING OFF AFTER THE CIVIL DEFENCE SERVICES PARADE

treatment. Each mobile post consists of a motor vehicle, such as a big truck or van, carrying more or less the same equipment as for a small fixed first-aid post and also the medical staff.

The primary object of the rescue service is to rescue living persons entrapped in debris. It is also responsible for the recovery of the dead from damaged buildings (their subsequent removal may be carried out by a separate organisation) and to take any immediate steps necessary for the temporary support or demolition of buildings, the collapse of which is likely to endanger life or to obstruct traffic. The rescue service normally does not undertake extensive demolitions nor demolitions involving the use of explosives.

Rescue parties, which are provided in the scale of 10 parties per 10,000 population, are divided into two types—"Heavy" and "Light"—according to the equipment provided. This proportion of Light and Heavy Parties is decided in the light of local conditions.

Light Rescue Parties consist of 11 men, namely, one leader, 3 skilled men (recruited, where possible, from the building trades), 6 unskilled men and one driver for the party lorry. Heavy Rescue Parties consist of 9 men, namely, one leader, 3 skilled men, 4 unskilled men and one driver for the party lorry.

It is laid down that at least three of the unskilled members of the Light Rescue Parties should be trained in first-aid. These parties, which are controlled from the Control Centre, are located in combined A.R.P. depots where all other A.R.P. services are also accommodated.

## THREE AREA ADVISERS FOR CIVIL DEFENCE APPOINTED

To establish closer liaison with Provincial Governments and give them, on the spot, the latest advice on civil defence matters, thereby reducing correspondence to a minimum, the Government of India in the Civil Defence Department have appointed three officers as Area Advisers (Civil Defence).

Wing Commander A. H. S. Steele-Perkins, R.A.F. (Retd.) and Mr. W. F. M. Davies, I.P., formerly styled Touring Officers, have been appointed to two of these posts, their territories being the Eastern Army Area (with Calcutta as tour headquarters) and the Southern Army Area (with Madras as tour headquarters), respectively. The third officer appointed to cover North-Western India is Mr. C. B. Rennick, F.S.I., F.L.G.A., a senior official of the Rangoon Municipal Corporation for 20 years. He was connected with the organisation of the Civil Defence Services, first in Rangoon and later in Upper Burma. He has had practical experience of the working of A.R.P. Services under actual air raid conditions in the East, having been present during all the air raids on Rangoon and many of the raids on Upper Burma.

Mr. Rennick served throughout the last war—in Gallipoli, Salonica, Bulgaria and later Italy.

The Area Advisers will establish personal contact with officers at the headquarters of the Provincial Governments who deal with Civil Defence, to help in removing any difficulties in the implementing of the general policies laid down by the Government of India. They are authorised to sanction as poolable (under the "slab" system of pooling expenditure, agreed to between the Centre and the Provinces) any departure which they consider reasonable from scales or establishments laid down by the Government of India for A. R. P. services, etc., informing Civil Defence Department.

### Contact With Railway Officials

Area Advisers will also maintain liaison with Regional Camouflage Officers and with railway officials, giving the latter any help or advice they ask for, particularly in relation to the co-ordination of railway A. R. P. schemes (which are controlled direct by the Railway Board) with the general civil defence schemes.

In addition, they will establish personal relations with military Commanders, especially as regards maintaining liaison in respect of the Warning System.





THE DUKE SHAKING HANDS WITH THE SHERIFF OF BOMBAY AT THE CITY'S CIVIL DEFENCE SERVICES RALLY HELD AT BRABOURNE STADIUM

It is hoped that the Indian States in these areas will also make full use of the services of these officers.

Area Advisers will be on constant tour, visiting towns and ports in the company, whenever possible, of the A. R. P. officers of the Provincial Government and will assist and advise in the preparation and execution of civil defence schemes.

#### Visits To Bombed Areas

Area Advisers will deal with medical arrangements for casualties, other than purely technical matters. Fire services are included within the purview of their functions, but they are not to advise any departure from the Fire Adviser's recommendations without reference to Civil Defence Department.

Finally, Area Advisers will visit, as soon as possible, any area that has been bombed, to give any advice that may be helpful and to send a report direct to the Civil Defence Department, describing salient features of the raid and any lessons to be learnt from it.

#### NEW CIVIL DEFENCE SCHOOLS

In connexion with the Government of India's decision to open four more Civil Defence Schools in addition to the Civil Defence Staff School and the Civil Defence Instructors School located in Calcutta, a Specialist Instructors School will be located in Nedou's Hotel, Lahore, and it is hoped to begin the first course on August 31, 1942.

The Civil Defence Staff School, which was transferred from Calcutta to Lahore, was reopened in Nedou's Hotel on August 10,



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE BOMBAY GOVERNOR DURING INSPECTION

when No. 13 (A.R.P. Officers') Course commenced. The same day, No. 13 (Industrial) Course began at the Civil Defence Industrial School at Calcutta.

The next Course at the Civil Defence Instructors School, Calcutta, started on August 14.

A second Instructors School and a second Specialist School will be established as soon as the necessary premises and Instructors can be obtained. It is understood that the Government of India are negotiating for buildings in Bombay and Hyderabad (Deccan) for the location of these two schools.





INDIAN SOLDIERS IN EGYPT WATCH TROOPS COMING FROM LIBYA TO TAKE UP NEW POSITIONS AND STOP THE AXIS ADVANCE

## INDIAN FIELD GUNNERS IN WESTERN DESERT

Indian Field Gunners bid fair to rival the reputation already gained by their brother mountain gunners. They were first in action in Burma and now comes the following stirring account from an Indian Army Observer of their activities in the Western Desert :

A young Madrassi officer of an Indian Field Regiment brought his section of guns into El Alamein on the morning of June 30. "Under whose command do I come?" he asked. "And where do I put my guns?"

It was just 35 days since that momentous morning when an Indian Field Regiment, as part of the Third Indian Motor Brigade, waited for Rommel's approach in the dim light of the desert dawn, to the east of Bir Hacheim. Rommel was due, and he came on time.

### Enemy Tanks Were Smashed

The story has already been told how the Motor Brigade, deploying its light guns cleverly, brought the panzer mass under the muzzles of our 25-pounders. How, when the rush had passed, 51 smashed tanks



INDIAN TROOPS INSPECT THEIR TANKS AFTER THE LIBYAN OMAR BATTLE

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1942





GENERAL SIR CLAUDE AUCHINLECK, C-IN-C., MIDDLE EAST, WATCHES MEMBERS OF THE MEDICAL CORPS AT WORK

showed the toll taken. Rather than run the risk of such another blow, Rommel split his tanks into two columns, and we were given the golden opportunity of destroying him piecemeal. The chance was lost, but through no fault of the Indian artillery regiments.

Momentum carried the 400 heavy tanks over the guns, and the brigade was withdrawn for reorganisation. Six days at the rear, and its commander announced his force to be ready for action again. Then came tragedy for this Field Regiment. Their anti-tank sections had to be diverted to other duties. The co-operation between light and heavy guns, which had served so well at Bir Hacheim, was no longer possible. 25-pounders working in the open are not as dangerous without flank protection.

When the Field Regiment moved up again, they went into the desert, to cover the southern end of our frontier minefield, which ran from Sollum towards the broken and knobbly escarpment of Safafi. By this time the enemy knew a great deal about our minefields, and was furiously in a hurry, for the British garrisons were retiring from Bardia, Capuzzo and Halfaya, by the coastal road. If only the minefield had not stood in his way, the panzers might have cut across it, and swung sharply on our rear. But minefields with 25-pounders covering them was a different matter.

While the Indian Gunners kept guard, there was no short cut. So Rommel's armour had to swing far south into the

desert, and entered Egypt by way of Conference Cairn and the Madellane Wire, then turned north on a route that made an acute V. This saved us precious days, and our garrisons reached Mersa Matruh without challenge.

#### Fierce Delaying Actions

But to make assurance doubly sure, this Field Regiment barred the path of the panzers as they turned north. There they fought fierce delaying actions in the broken ground around Safafi, across the undulating desert towards Halfaya House, and along the eastward trails that pick up the main road around Sidi Barrani. Unprotected guns fare little better than unprotected infantry when they have to meet tank masses. Frontal fire pins them down, while other panzers move to flank and rear for the kill. But the Field Regiment paid the price, although they were new troops, and on their first campaign. They left guns and men sprawled across them, but they left tanks broken and askew; for when a 25-pounder hits a tank, it stays hit.

Then the long trek back, always with the rumble of tanks behind them. Sometimes armoured cars and lorryborne infantry milled about them; sometimes the Stukas screeched down upon them. The Regiment dwindled, but never dispersed. An officer who rode into El Alamein, 215 miles from the frontier, wheeled his guns round gladly, and took up the task of defence. For this Field Regiment was still in the field, and today it is part of the thunder that defends Egypt.

## SIKH ENGINEERS AT WORK IN IRAN

**R**aised a year ago at Sialkot, a Sikh Pioneer Battalion of the Indian Engineers celebrated its first birthday doing a big job of work in the rugged mountainous regions of Western Iran.

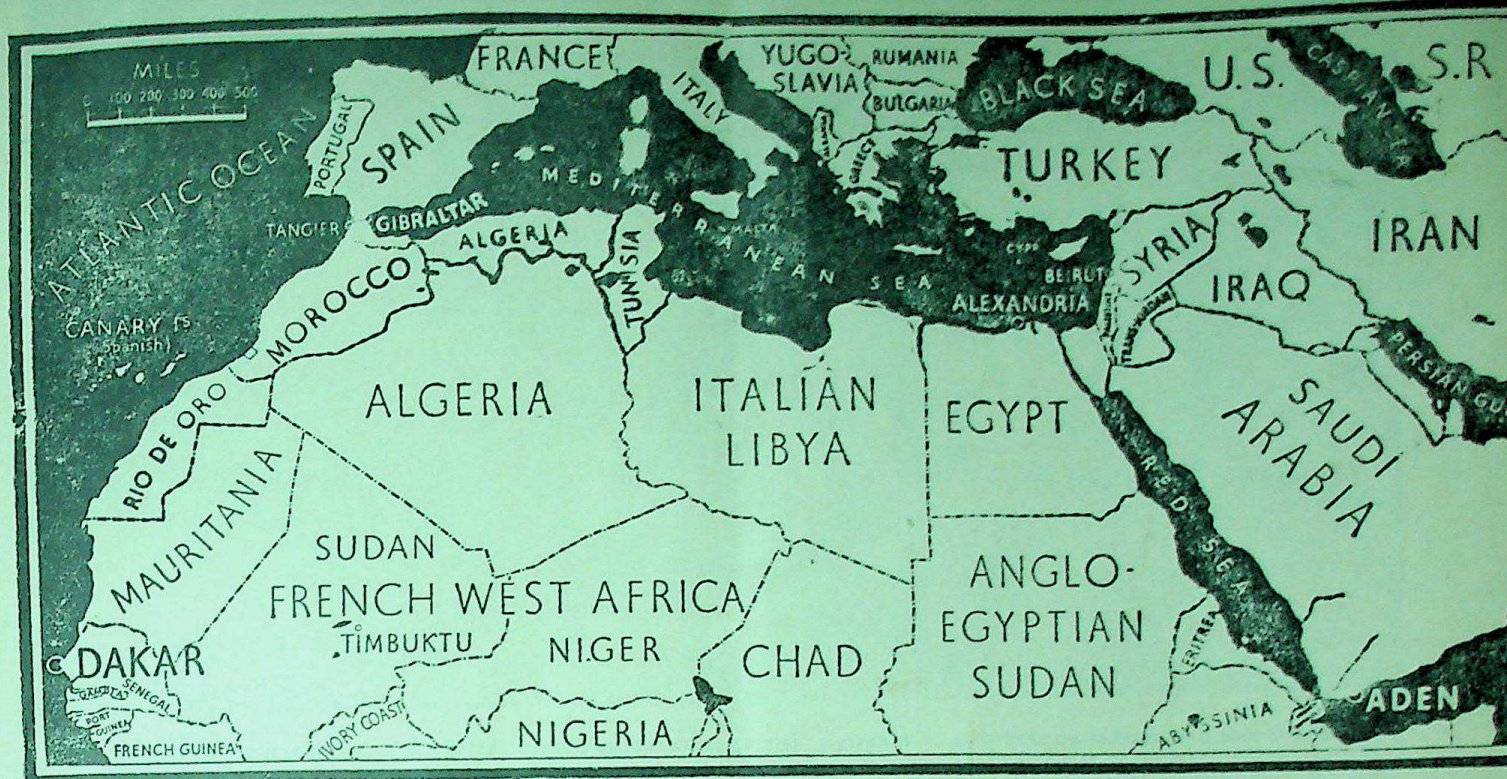
We watched them at work the other day, writes an Indian Army Observer, and saw them mixing concrete, digging trenches, laying out positions and cutting mule tracks in the steep sides of the towering mountains. They are tough and happy. Working at an altitude of over 6,000 feet, sometimes at 10,000 feet, they feel no ill effects—on the contrary, every man is fit.

Alongside the Sikhs is a Punjabi Mule Company of the R.I.A.S.C. This unit sees that the engineers on the mountain tops are supplied with rations and also with materials for gun positions.

Local Iranians, mostly tough Kurdish tribesmen, have been enlisted as labourers and are firm friends with the Sikhs. It is not uncommon to hear a couple of Sikhs in a wayside "*Chaikhna*" chatting to the "locals" in fluent Persian—a language which they have quickly learned.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1942





## EPISODES FROM LIBYAN FRONT

## INDIAN TROOPS STAND GUARD OVER THE NILE

Yesterday's armoured battle went better for us. Our new dispositions to the north were unmolested, our front is again at right angles to our lines of communication and it all suggests sufficient strength to resist and also to attack when the time comes, states an Indian Army Observer on the Libyan Front in his cable dated June 15, 1942.

Indian troops fought repeated actions at El Adem on June 15, the Garhwalis particularly distinguishing themselves, pursuing the enemy for two miles when German lorry-borne infantry of the 19th Division retreated in panic.

In the course of this fighting one section of British guns was heading for the protection of the El Adem 'box' and was just out of range when it was rushed by 20 German tanks. Another mile would have meant safety for the gunners but they preferred to fight it out in the open. They unlimbered, turned and smashed three tanks to bits before they were overrun. The incident was watched by Indian troops in the 'box' who clamoured to go to the assistance of the gunners.

### NAZIS SURRENDER

On June 12, the Garhwalis, in action for the first time in Libya, had one of their carriers destroyed by a direct hit and ten men taken prisoners. On the evening of June 13, British artillery near El Adem enabled these ten men and 150 other prisoners to escape. The Indians keeping together and moving towards their lines in the darkness came upon a German wireless truck and a 3-ton lorry with their crews dosed down for the night.

Although unarmed, the Havildar in charge of the Indian party decided to attack and the Garhwalis rushed the vehicles

yelling at the top of their voices. Nine Germans, who were armed with two rifles, two tommy guns and one pistol, surrendered without firing a shot. The Indians posted a guard and camped for the night at the same spot. Starting homewards in the morning they took two more prisoners, at the same time releasing a British sergeant. Thus the total bag of these bold unarmed men was 11 prisoners, two vehicles, five weapons and two rescues. During the period of their captivity and return, the Garhwalis fed on German rations and drank water from the radiators of German vehicles.

### NAIK TAKES 13 PRISONERS

On another occasion a Lance-Naik of the Mahrattas, belonging to the same Division, brought in 13 German prisoners of the 90th motorised division whom he had found in a stranded vehicle. These prisoners were exhausted saying that the battle was fearful. They insisted on surrendering and were docile.

After the first clashes the Indians were contemptuous of the German infantry, states the Observer. "Keep off the tanks and we'll chase them out of Africa," they declare.

### GURKHA'S BRAVERY

A Gurkha who was driving a British officer was captured by a German patrol, disarmed and told to follow the enemy column. At the first cross-roads he dashed in the opposite direction. An armoured car followed, machine-gunning and badly wounding the Gurkha. He drove on until he was hit again when the officer grabbed the wheel over his body and raced away delivering the driver to a field ambulance, at which the Gurkha said: "I am very happy, Sir. Thanks for the help." The Gurkha will live.

Battle-scarred Indian warriors—veterans who have fought their way through the victories and reverses of the Libyan campaign—are now holding places of honour in the defence of the Nile Valley, cables an Indian Army Observer from Egypt on June 27, 1942. With them are new-comers, Indian units who have not yet encountered the enemy, but who are eager for action.

At Mersa Matruh, I have just seen Indians occupying advanced posts in the front line ready to meet the German offensive. These troops are unperturbable and very cheerful. However the fortunes of battle go they are certain to give an excellent account of themselves.

Out on reconnaissance, and in contact with the enemy's advanced elements, are Indian Armoured Cavalry units. These troops are supported by guns and armour and have every reason to believe that they can inflict sufficiently heavy casualties on the enemy to prevent him from reaching his objective, the Suez Canal. I talked with some of them who had already been engaged with the enemy during the withdrawal from Cyrenaica and found them, despite casualties, already refitted, refreshed and ready to have another crack at Jerry.

Today, June 27, Mersa Matruh has a curious air of calm yet tense expectancy. There is no tendency to underestimate the enemy's strength; but it is generally felt that our forces are sufficiently strong and the position strategically good.

Right up to where our lines end and "No Man's Land" begins, I contacted Indians on guard behind fortifications and minefields, backed by guns of all calibre and by air support. Their morale is steady and they are hoping soon to have a chance of revenge on the enemy and to thrust him back, repeating the exploits of their comrades at Sidi Barrani, Sidi Omar and Bir Hacheim.





GONE IS THE OLD BARRACK-SQUARE TYPE OF TRAINING. THE ARMY GUARDING INDIA'S EASTERN APPROACHES LIVES "IN THE FIELD"

## NEW TRAINING— NEW SPIRIT

**O**n the Eastern Frontier of India, Troops of all Arms are watching the new Eastern Gateway, writes an Indian Army Observer in Assam.

Although there is nothing quite so formidable as the difficult passes of the famous North-West Frontier, with its Khyber Pass, there are natural defences of a different kind, and the Rivers Brahmaputra and Chindwin are formidable barriers.

We have learned our lesson of not relying on fixed defences. Mobile troops are to be seen everywhere. Their ever-changing positions are difficult to keep up with but on all sides one sees the Eastern Army training hard. The troops are living in the field and training on the actual ground they might have to defend. This all makes for keenness and efficiency and it is obvious that there is a new offensive spirit.

Gone is the old barrack square type of training. The new method of training in the field encourages more interest and keenness among both officers and men.

Again we are not now relying on the Motor transport which tied the path of the Army in Burma to Burma's few roads. The Mule is coming into his own again.

This is where our North-West Frontier training has helped. Many famous Regiments from that part of India have moved over to this side to serve on our New Eastern Frontier.

### MOTOR AMBULANCES FOR THE ARMY IN INDIA

All ranks at the 9th Gurkhas Regimental Centre have subscribed a total of Rs. 3,300 for the purchase of a motor ambulance for the Army in India.

Six fully equipped ambulances purchased with voluntary subscriptions to the Madras Ambulance Fund have been handed over to the Army.



TROOPS ON INDIA'S EASTERN FRONTIER DO NOT RELY ON MOTOR TRANSPORT BUT ON THE MULE



TRAINING WITH MULE TRANSPORT ON INDIA'S EASTERN FRONTIER



## DEFENCE

RECRUITMENT TO  
INDIAN SIGNALS

The C. O. of an Indian Signals training unit showed me his latest batch of recruits with justifiable pride. He had secured them himself during a recent tour of the Punjab districts. They were learning to play games when we arrived. Basketball Rounders and Deck Tennis were in full swing and these boys from the villages were getting to know each other in the rough and tumble, writes an Indian Army Observer.

The Colonel pointed to a sturdy-looking young Sikh. "That chap," he said "is tough." It appears that when he presented himself for enlistment with a batch of others he was rejected on grounds of extreme youth. His disappointment knew no bounds and as a last resort he approached the Colonel with the suggestion that, to prove his fitness to become a soldier, he would fight or wrestle any one of the luckier applicants who had been accepted.

The Colonel put the proposition before the group who, good-humouredly, chose a hefty-looking lad to represent them in battle. A ring was formed and the contestants went to it. The bigger lad emerged triumphant but was forced to extend himself to do so and the younger gained his point. A "shabash" from the Colonel and he was passed in to the recruiting officer for enlistment.

## Railway Guard Joins Up

A sticky evening found the Colonel and his party marooned on a railway station. He was faced with the task of getting his recruits, many of whom were completely unfamiliar with railway travel, back to base. To his assistance came a railway guard who undertook to shepherd the party. The Colonel gratefully accepted the offer of help and, before the train left, facetiously suggested that the guard himself should enlist. To his surprise the official readily agreed and has since presented himself at Headquarters. His qualifications entitled him to special consideration and the day is not far distant when he will blossom forth as an instructor.

The Colonel had found little difficulty in securing his quota of recruits. They had come to him from many strange sources. In one village a distressed father declared that his two boys had been arraigned before the magistrate for minor offences. He pleaded with the Colonel to intercede



SIGNALLERS IN WESTERN DESERT LAYING TELEPHONE LINE BETWEEN H.Q. AND AN OUTLYING POST

WIRELESS TRUCK KEEPS FORMATION IN TOUCH WITH OTHER UNITS. MESSAGES COME IN CODE.  
INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1942

A SPECIAL TRUCK IS USED TO LAY THE LINE



## DEFENCE

on their behalf. A visit to the Court-house and a chat with the magistrate resulted in two spirited recruits to Signals and the gratitude of a father who had lost control of his sons. The Colonel pointed out the delinquents, both of whom seemed extremely happy, and the N.C.O. in charge told us that they showed more than average promise to become first-class soldiers.

Many of these boys came from good homes and had been to decent schools. One could pick them out by their obvious familiarity with ball games. They showed eagerness to teach their less fortunate fellows how to bat and field. Roars of laughter followed the desperate fumbling of a tyro to retrieve the ball but, a second later, there was a scramble to demonstrate the correct method.

Whistles denoted the end of the play period and the men rushed to their bathrooms, emerging later in clean clothes, more than ready for the dinner which awaited their attention in barracks.

"I'm proud of that lot," said the Colonel. "Come back and see them next month." He dived into the cookhouse to inspect the curry. There's nothing like the personal touch.



A BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS SIGNAL OFFICE IN THE FIELD

## ADVENTURES OF A GURKHA "VETERAN"

**T**ough, five-foot, 19-year-old Gurkha "veteran" Bhimraj Limbu, who became separated from his unit in Burma, experienced adventures as dramatic as any in the slickest of novels before arriving back in India recently.

Bhimraj—as he will proudly tell you—was his Commanding Officer's orderly and runner, until he fell into a hole and lost touch with his battalion. To get out of the hole, he had to sever with his *kukri* a tree root under which he had become pinned. While he was doing this, a Jap appeared with a sub-machine gun. The Gurkha

paused in his work long enough to shoot the Jap before the latter had sighted him.

### Frequent Encounters

Safely out of the hole, Bhimraj began a fruitless search for his Commanding Officer during which he met a Havildar of his own battalion who, single-handed, was holding up a Japanese advance by using alternatively a Bren and a Tommy gun.

Having joined in the scrap and foiled the attack, Bhimraj and the Havildar continued to search for their unit, all the while behind the enemy lines and with frequent encounters with the Japs.

In one of these fights, Bhimraj was hit on the head with a hand grenade. He declares it burnt a bit and that he thought it was perspiration pouring down his head, until after some time he discovered it was blood. He bandaged himself, continued the fight, and now bears a three-inch scar as a "souvenir" of the episode.

## SOLDIER'S RATION

A soldier's ration now consists of more articles of processed Indian foods than were previously possible.

It is a far cry from the last war when cows were exported to Mesopotamia. Today tinned cheese, dried fruits, compressed vegetables, dehydrated potatoes and essence of chicken made in India are some of the processed foodstuffs which provide variety and sustenance to the soldier in the field.

India can supply some 4,000 tons of dried fruit and 300 to 400 tons of tinned cheese. Production has been pepped up to 23,000 tons of dehydrated potatoes and India can meet a demand for 62,000 Rennet tablets a year, some 1,000 tons of compressed vegetables, besides 5,000 tons of Golden Syrup—a new industry replacing the imported article—and some 2,500 tons of margarine.



INDIAN SOLDIERS, WITH THEIR MULES, IN BURMA



SOLDIERS OF THE K.O.Y.L.I. IN ACTION IN BURMA





LT-GENERAL N. M. RITCHIE WITH LT-GENERAL W. NORRIE (LEFT) AND LT-GENERAL "STRAAFER" GOTT

## FAMOUS INDIAN REGIMENTS—

By Sir Patrick Cadell

## THE 1ST PUNJAB REGIMENT

**B**attalions of Indian Infantry have been earning fresh honours through the African campaigns and among them is a battalion of the 1st Punjab Regiment, who have the British Commander-in-Chief as their Honorary Colonel.

This battalion is adding to its great deeds in Eritrea and Syria where its performance greatly augmented the ancient and honourable tradition of the regiment.

One battalion formed part of the exiguous line which for anxious months bluffed and restrained Graziani's vastly superior forces on the Libyan frontier in 1940. They were in the front of the attack which on December 9, swept on to Nimbewa and Sidi Barrani and scattered these forces into captivity.

Then, switched to the Eritrean frontier, the Regiment shared in the fighting and pursuit which took the British forces from Kassala to Keren. They captured the Italian strong-posts at Agordat and Barentu, as it were, in their stride. At Keren they fought in mountain country for which their training on the Indian frontier had made them especially suited. With bayonet and grenade, they twice seized the high point

on the Ridge overlooking Keren, known as Brigadier's Peak.

**Held Position For 7 Weeks**

Twice they had to abandon it, owing to the absence of reinforcement. But they clung to the ridge though sometimes they could only be supplied with food by aeroplane. After seven weeks of fighting, reinforcements arrived, and the position was finally stormed.

Fighting of an even more severe character awaited them in Syria where they had to meet the Vichy French Army, highly trained and, as the Italians had been, in much superior force.

At Kessoué and Jebel Madani they achieved what the Free French Commander considered to be impossible, the Sikh Company particularly distinguishing itself. Half their battalion with a battalion of the Rajputana Rifles, their comrades of Libya and Eritrea, captured the village of Mezze, and then maintained a defence of 36 hours against an overwhelming force armed with tanks and heavy artillery. Ultimately they had to yield, but their struggle was not in vain. They had drawn the main body of

enemy troops from Damascus, which fell an easy prize to the British and Free French Forces; the end of Vichy resistance quickly followed.

**Battalion Nearly 200 Years Old**

The 1st Punjab Regiment is worthily entitled the first of the Line of Indian Infantry, combining as it does the traditions, though not the blood relationship, of three of the various strains which have contributed to the fame of the Indian Army. Its priority of number it owes, in the first place, to the descent of its battalions from regiments of the Madras Army. Its 1st Battalion dates from 1759, the year in which the earliest Madras regiments were formed.

**Victory At Wandewash**

The next year the Regiment took part in Sir Eyre Coote's victory over the French at Wandewash in 1760, a battle which was the foundation of the British success over its great European rival in India. The Regiment, indeed, had a share in nearly all the decisive battles which in the South and West of India brought victory to the British cause against most formidable adversaries.



## 3RD INDIAN MOTOR BRIGADE'S PART IN THE LIBYAN BATTLE

**N**ews has been received that the 3rd Indian Motor Brigade has again played a distinguished part in resisting an Axis offensive in Libya.

In April 1941, this Brigade rushed out from the Tobruk area in an effort to check any attempt of General Rommel to drive across the desert and cut the line of withdrawal of Allied forces from Benghazi and Derna. Joining a few other Allied units at Mechili the Brigade helped to check the enemy for an invaluable 48 hours. Surrounded by greatly superior forces our troops then broke out and the majority succeeded in rejoining our new defence lines.

On that occasion, when everything that could be spared had been sent to the aid of Greece, the Indian Brigade like most of the other Allied forces in Cyrenaica was comparatively new to the desert and was lightly equipped. This time as part of the Eighth Army the Indians had their full complement of anti-tank weapons and artillery.

### "A Glorious Achievement"

On May 25, the 3rd Indian Motor Brigade moved out to cover the Allied positions at Bir Hacheim against which an enemy attack appeared to be in preparation. The presumption was not ill-founded.

The next morning the Indians were suddenly confronted by the whole German Afrika Korps—a most remarkable spectacle. This fearsome revelation could only have one meaning—General Rommel was launching a major offensive. The Eighth Army must be warned and given as much time as possible to prepare an adequate reception.

So, once again this devoted Indian Brigade prepared to tackle the impossible—an attack on the full array of Panzer Divisions. It could not possibly last but the Indian gunners tackled the problem as if they were out to defeat Rommel's armoured might all on their own. Finally they were overrun, as was inevitable, but not before Rommel's Panzers had been weakened to the extent of 50 to 60 invaluable tanks. Nor was that all. Being overrun by an armoured force in the desert does not imply the end, because tanks cannot stand around holding prisoners. The Brigade suffered casualties naturally, but the bulk of the regiments made good their escape and are at it again. In a special message to General Wavell, who had made inquiries about the Brigade, General Auchinleck describes the action as "a glorious achievement which may well have saved us from a reverse on May 27."

### CONCESSION TO RECRUITS

Potential recruits to the Indian Defence Services will no longer bear the cost of postage when sending formal applications to Recruiting Officers.

To find out whether an applicant is up to the prescribed standard before he is called up for interview, it is the system for Recruiting Officers to send application forms for completion and return to all who offer themselves for service. It is to save the latter expenditure on the return postage that this decision has been taken. To take advantage of this concession, all that applicants have to do is to superscribe the words "Service Unpaid" on the application forms and then post them. The cost will then be borne by the Recruiting authorities.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1942



A truckload of Indian troops on their way to camp. They belong to a famous Indian Regiment which took part in the Abyssinian campaign

The 2nd Battalion was present at Sholinghur, where Sir Eyre Coote, 21 years after his victory at Wandewash, once again gained a victory that decided the varying fortune of the campaign.

Three of the Regiment's battalions shared in the capture of Seringapatam which ended Tippu's kingdom and life. Two suffered great losses with Wellesley at Assaye, as hardly won a victory as was ever fought in India. Four battalions took part in Wellesley's second and easier, but equally decisive, victory at Argaum.

#### Rich Stream Of Honours

Meanwhile in the north of India, another regiment later to be connected with the 1st Punjab Regiment had shared in General Lake's decisive campaign. This was the battalion of the Bengal Army, which proved to be the senior of the few Regiments of that Army which survived the Mutiny.

Thus it was, for 60 years, the first of the Bengal Line. In 1922, it was appropriately united with the descendants of the old Madras battalions that form the 1st Punjab Regiment. It did not long survive the union, but it has brought to the Regiment, with the battle distinctions of Leswarzee and Bhurtapore, an affluent to its already rich stream of honours.

The Madras battalions had played their part in the early wars in India and even beyond it, for two of them had shared in the expedition that in 1810 subdued Mauritius and other Islands then French.

In the later years of the 19th century, however, the locale of constant warfare had shifted, and, largely through disuse, the

Madras troops lost their suitability for employment. Thus the battalions which now constitute the 1st Regiment were reformed and recruited in the Punjab.

There were many famous corps raised in that Province before then, but, when the Indian regiments were renumbered after the last war, the seniority of their original formation gave them pride of place.

#### In Victorious Baghdad Advance

The Punjab Mahomedans, as well as the Sikhs and the Pathans, supply soldiers to whom it would be hard to find equals in any army. These three stocks are all to be found in the 1st Punjab Regiment. There is, indeed, a fourth from outside the Punjab, the Rajputs from Rajputana, but it is also of fine quality, and the Regiment as a whole is worthy of the Province whose name it bears.

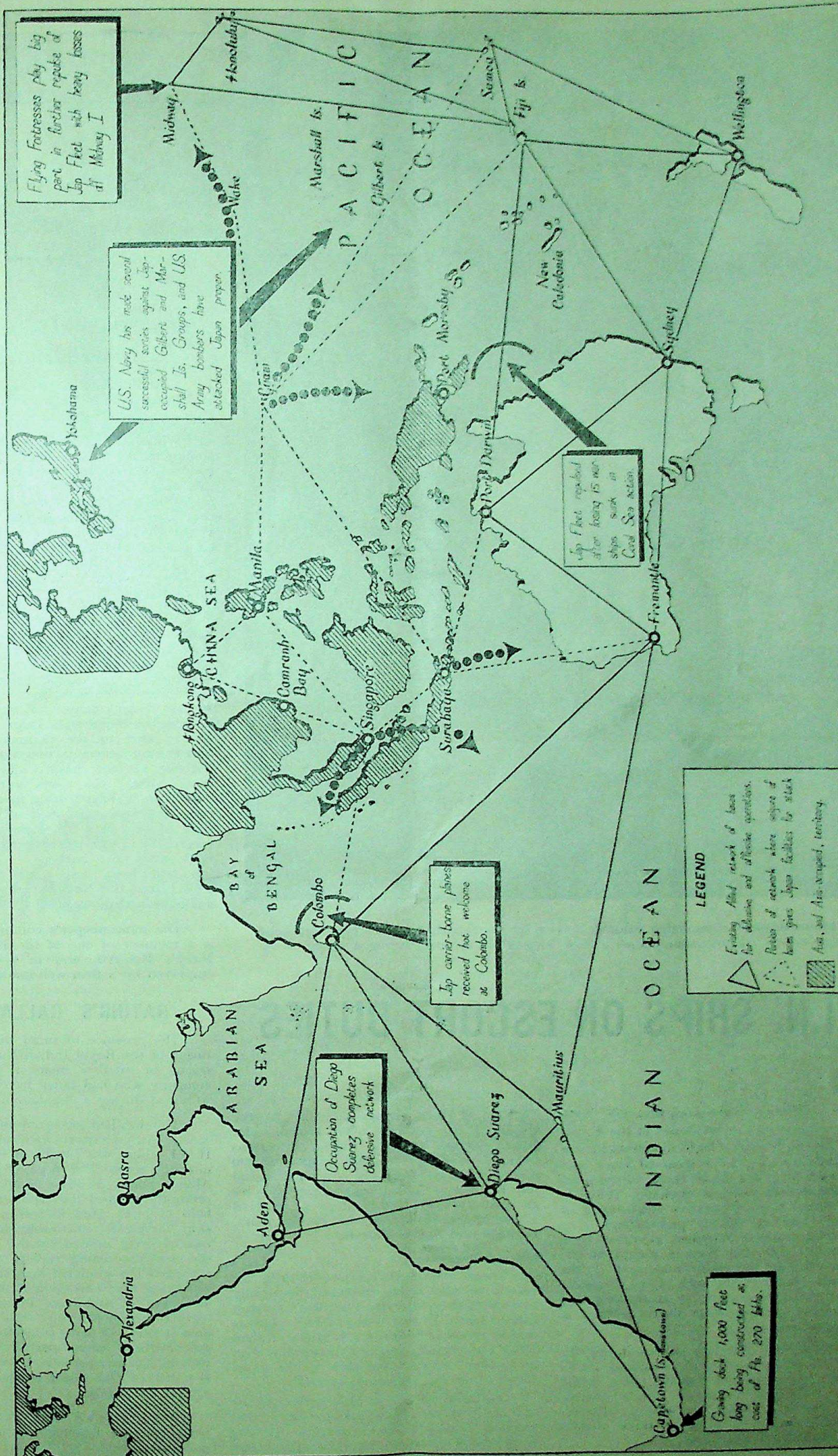
It saw its first fighting in its reconstituted form in the Great War of 1914-18, not in Flanders, Gallipoli, or Palestine, but in Mesopotamia where four of its battalions had their full share of fighting.

Two of them shared in Townshend's great advance till the victory at Ctesiphon which was none the less a victory, though it preceded a retreat and a siege that ended in inevitable surrender.

These two battalions shared all the sufferings of the defence of Kut and of the captivity that followed it. Two more of its battalions not only shared in the efforts to relieve the devoted garrison, but in the victorious advance to Baghdad and the final expulsion of the Turks from Mesopotamia.



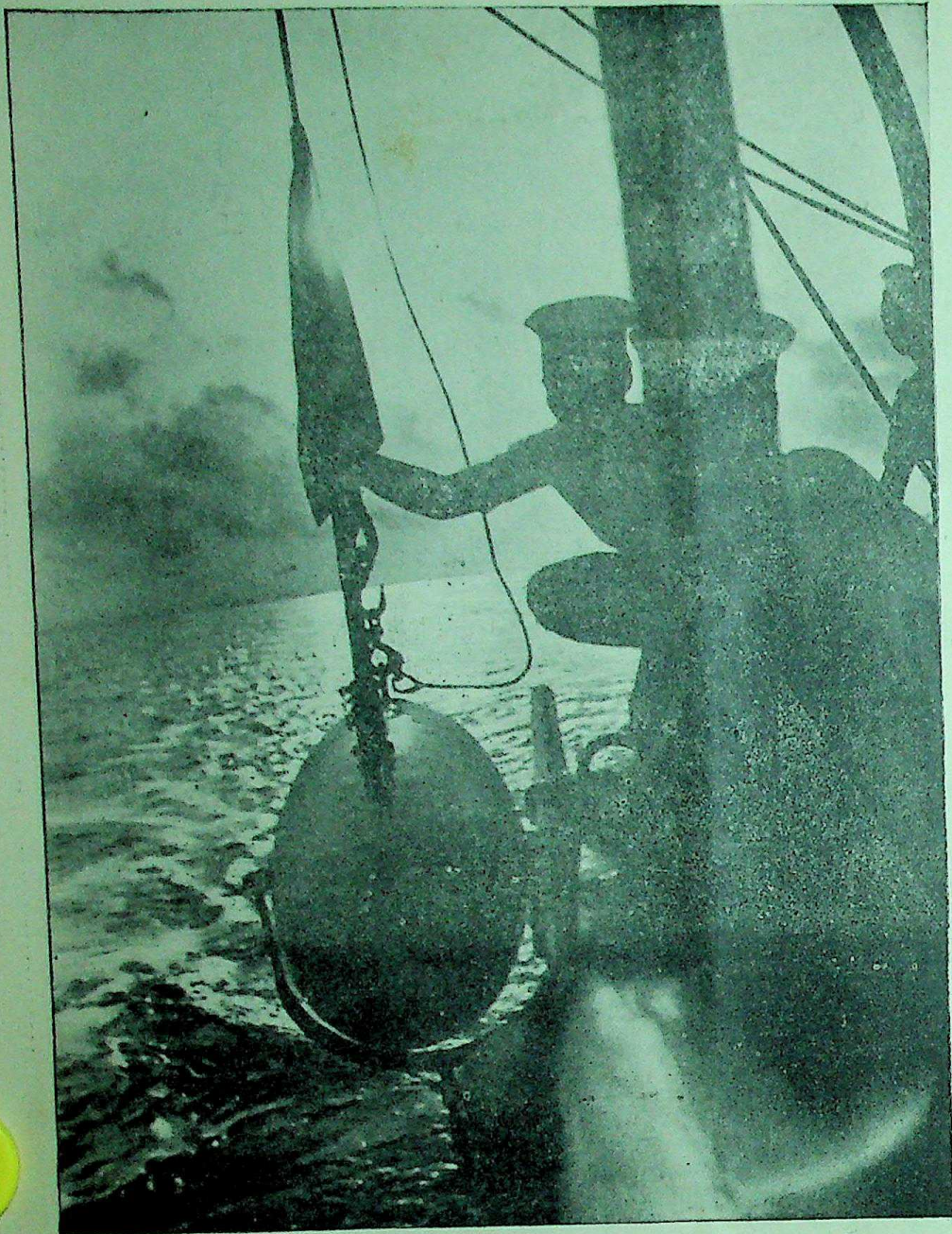
# ALLIED NAVAL NETWORK



W.N.R. No. 118.



## DEFENCE



R.I.N. Minesweepers are rendering valuable service by ensuring that India's ports are kept free from mines. Here, minesweeper's crew swings out a float during a dawn sweep

## R.I.N. SHIPS ON ESCORT DUTIES

**A**n impression of the work done by ships employed on escort duties in the Royal Indian Navy can be formed from figures of distances they have steamed since the outbreak of war. That these figures tell an incomplete story is obvious. They do not reveal the comparative importance of ships' tasks at various periods, nor can statistics indicate whether voyages were eventful. But they form a record of the work done in India's defence, and of the labours of officers and men in the Engineer Department whose job it is to keep the machinery of their ships fit for service in all circumstances.

In various quarterly periods during the war for which records are available six of H.M.I. ships steamed 143,492 miles, which averages 11,958 miles per ship a quarter. For certain periods the average distance steamed by these ships in three months was 12,730 miles per ship.

One of them, engaged on duty in the Middle East, covered over 16,000 miles during a certain quarter. A sloop, in various voyages over six months, logged 25,000 miles or more than the distance round the Equator. Periods aggregating a year gave another of H.M.I. ships a total of 47,000 miles, mostly in the Persian Gulf, Red Sea and Bay of Bengal.

### Mileage Records

These are good mileage records for vessels of the class concerned, especially in view of the variety and number of duties carried out. During some of the quarters under review a ship of the Royal Indian Navy has actually steamed more miles than any other vessel of her class in the naval forces of the British Commonwealth.

Valuable service is also performed by the ships of the Royal Indian Navy that normally steam shorter distances. Among such vessels are minesweepers, which, though

they do not go far from their base ports, labour continuously on the monotonous duty of ensuring that these ports are kept free from mines.

Under the programme of shipbuilding now in course of fulfilment the fleet is being increased by the addition of both ocean-going ships and vessels suited to operations in coastal waters.

## SIGNALMAN RESCUES CREW OF TORPEDOED VESSEL

How an R.I.N. signalman's alertness led to the rescue of a torpedoed merchant ship's crew has just been revealed.

While sailing in the Bay of Bengal some months ago, a merchant ship was suddenly torpedoed by an enemy submarine. Officers and men packed themselves into a lifeboat and pulled for the eastern coast of India. One of H.M.I. patrol vessels, passing near the spot later, signalled to the naval authorities ashore that she saw wreckage; but though she searched widely she could observe no sign of survivors.

Meanwhile, in a certain port a sharp look-out was being kept from the Navy's duty minesweeper. Vessels like this are ready to put to sea at a few minutes' notice in an emergency. Constantly scanning the horizon, the signalman of the watch spotted distant flares. Whence they came he could not desery. Information was at once passed to the Commanding Officer, and the minesweeper proceeded out of the harbour without delay. Arriving at the spot where the flares were seen, she found the lifeboat tossing in the swell, officers and men exhausted after their long spell at the oars. A rope was promptly passed, and the minesweeper towed the lifeboat safely into harbour. Another little job had been done "all in the day's work," and the Navy's vigilance had once again been demonstrated.

The minesweeper's commanding officer is a member of one of the Royal Indian Navy's Reserves and in peace-time was employed by a firm well-known in India.

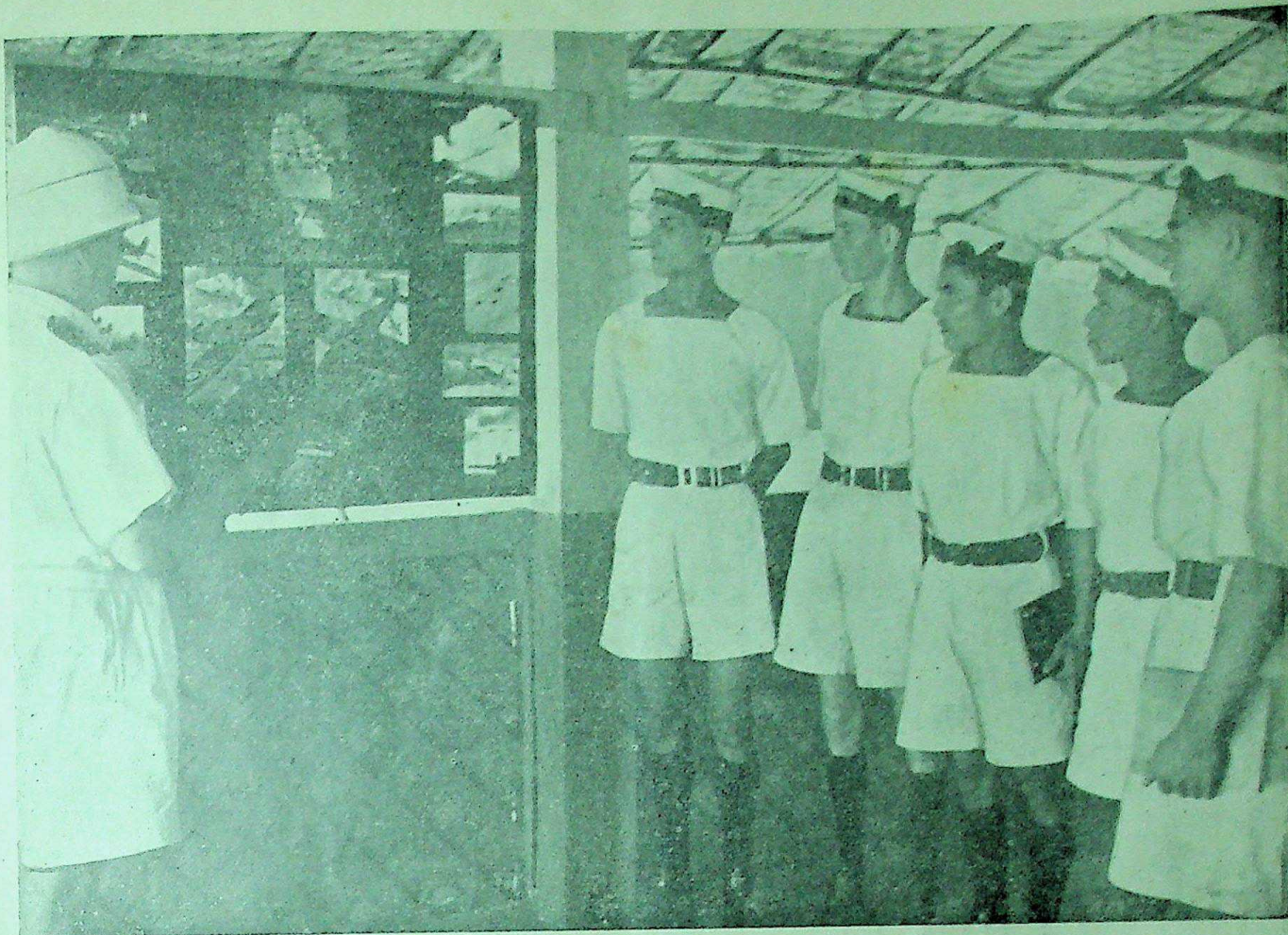
## RATING'S GALLANTRY

The presence of mind displayed by a rating of the Royal Indian Navy led to the rescue of another member of the ship's company who had fallen into the sea when wounded during a Japanese air raid.

The incident occurred off the Burma coast. An electrical artificer in one of H.M.I. ships was hit by a bullet and, in moving across the deck, fell overboard. Able Seaman A. M. Choudhry of Sylhet promptly jumped into the sea and caught hold of him. Had he swum back to his ship forthwith, he would have run the risk of being injured by her propellers, as she was proceeding rapidly; he therefore conveyed the wounded man to a boat that was being towed on the port side, clambered on board it, and from there managed to carry him into the ship. All this time the area around was being subjected to machine-gun fire from enemy aircraft. Leaving the man he had rescued in safe hands, he joined the rest of the ship's company in action against the enemy.

Able Seaman A. M. Choudhry has been promoted to Leading Seaman for his gallantry.





METHODS OF DISTINGUISHING DIFFERENT TYPES OF AIRCRAFT ARE TAUGHT IN GUNNERY SCHOOL AT R.I.N.'S TRAINING DEPOT

## TRAINING IN NAVAL GUNNERY

**A**s part of the general expansion of the Royal Indian Navy steps have been taken at major Indian ports to meet the greatly increased demand for training in naval gunnery.

From the beginning of the war the Navy has given officers and men of the Mercantile Marine instruction in the handling of the guns carried in their vessels. On their arrival in port masters of merchant ships are visited by a Staff Officer who offers them opportunities for training their crews, either ashore or on board, in the use of high angle and low angle guns. "Refresher" courses are conducted for the benefit of crews who have already had training in other ports: it is also necessary at times to instruct men who have had no training at all. The presence in merchant ships of capable gun crews is a necessity in these days of ruthless sea warfare, and the Royal Indian Navy supplements its work of watching over the seas by ensuring as far as possible that merchant ships shall be able to defend themselves against the enemy.

### Improved Facilities

In one Indian port a range is used solely for the purpose of teaching officers and men of the Mercantile Marine the handling of anti-aircraft armament. The instructors

are officers and higher gunnery ratings of the Royal Indian Navy, and it is not unusual to find six or seven nations represented among the crews they teach. New buildings are now being constructed, and more of the most up-to-date equipment is to be provided.

In other establishments, which will soon be started, there will be improved facilities for training officers and ratings of the Royal Indian Navy in an important branch of their work, recognition of the various types of aircraft likely to be sighted at sea. Other schools in various ports will centralise instruction in the none-too-easy art of keeping a sharp look-out at night. Look-out men are the eyes of the ship and must not only be constantly on the alert but also be able to interpret what they see. In these schools ratings will in particular be taught how to identify objects at night in different conditions of visibility.

### Up-to-date Equipment

The purpose of these and other new R. I. N. gunnery centres is to enable officers and men to keep their knowledge up-to-date after they have completed their course in the main gunnery school. New ships with the most up-to-date equipment are now being constantly added to the fleet, and the need of more facilities for specialist gunnery training has been felt for some time. The new establishments will help to meet it. What the Navy's gunnery ratings can do was shown in H.M.I.S. *Jenna's* encounter with Japanese aircraft in Dutch East Indies waters, where at least four enemy planes were destroyed by her.

## HOW VILLAGERS HELPED NAVAL OFFICERS

**S**kilful seamanship by officers of the Royal Indian Navy, the men under them and the Indian pilots of the locality recently led to much precious time being saved in the forwarding of river flats urgently required overseas.

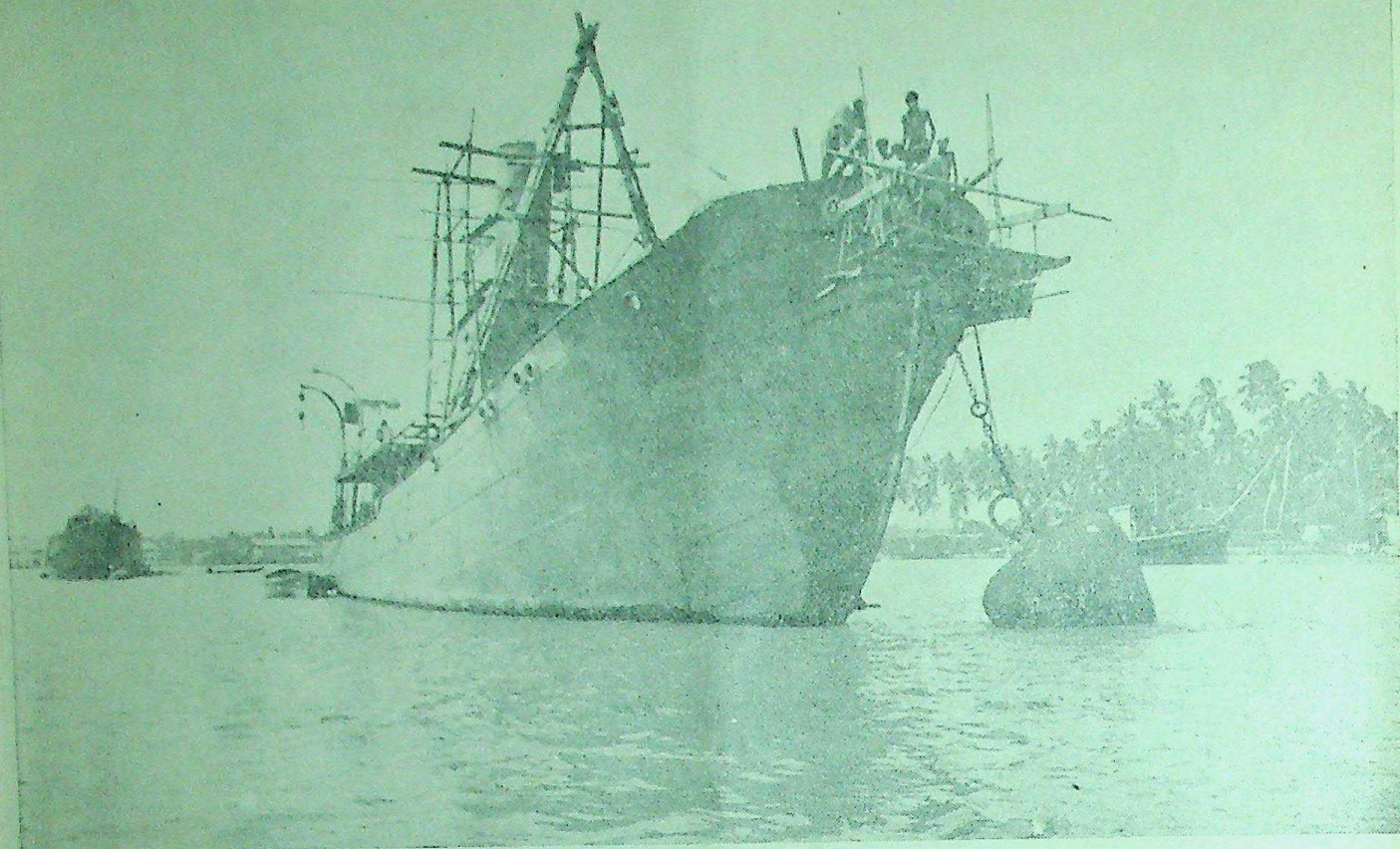
These craft were among a number that came from an Indian port. To avoid a much longer journey they had to be taken through a shallow and difficult channel.

They had been towed along the coast by auxiliary vessels of the Royal Indian Navy, whose draught however was too great for them to enter the channel. On arriving at the entrance, therefore, the auxiliary vessels anchored. But with heavy seas running and a strong wind blowing there was a danger of the flats being driven ashore, and it was therefore necessary to take them through the channel at the earliest opportunity.

Accordingly, naval officers, accompanied by pilots and villagers, proceeded out to them in small boats, struggling against wind and current. They cleared away anchors and towing hawsers, and the flats were then drifted through the outer line of breakers, where they were taken in tow by naval launches manned by Malabar and Ratnagiri seamen. Boldness and skill are required in manoeuvring empty flats through a rock-fringed channel with a fresh wind and six-knot current behind them, and anxious moments were experienced when

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 151]





A WHALER FROM THE ANTARCTIC IS BEING REFITTED AS A MOTOR MINESWEEPER SOMEWHERE ON THE SOUTH-WEST COAST OF INDIA

## SHIP REPAIRS AND SHIP CONSTRUCTION

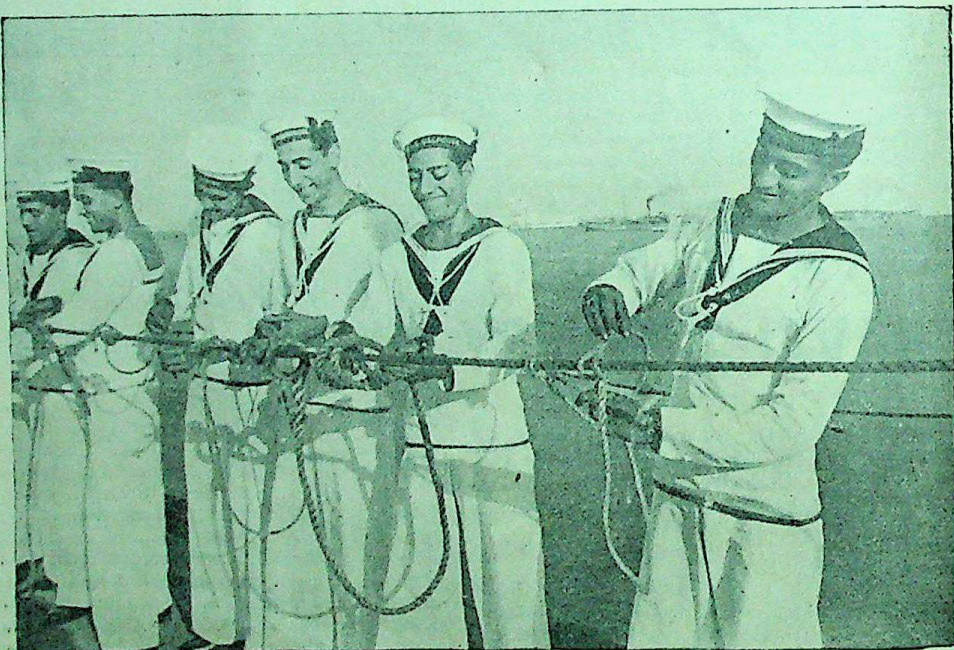
The Governor-General in Council has sanctioned the creation of a new office under the Supply Department to be known as the Directorate-General of Ship Repairs and Ship Construction. This office will not form part of the Directorate-General of Munitions Production, but will correspond directly with the Main Secretariat of the Supply Department. It will be responsible to the Government of India, and in appropriate cases through the Government of India to His Majesty's Government, for all work connected with ship repairs and ship construction.

### Complete Co-ordination

Hitherto, "ship repairs" have been the concern of the Director of Ship Repairs under the general control of the Flag Officer Commanding, Royal Indian Navy, on behalf of the Admiralty and the Ministry of War Transport. "New construction," on the other hand, has been dealt with by the Directorate-General of Munitions Production in the Supply Department. The new organisation has been created in order to ensure complete co-ordination between these two functions and to facilitate rapid administrative and financial decisions.

Rear Admiral R. R. Turner, Director of Ship Repairs, has been appointed to take charge of the new office with the designation of "Director-General of Ship Repairs and Ship Construction."

The headquarters of the new office will be at Bombay.



KNOTTING AND SPLICING FORM PART OF SAILORS' TRAINING

## CIVIC WELCOME TO R.I.N. PERSONNEL

A resident of a town in Scotland was so impressed by the good discipline and courteous behaviour of ratings of the Royal Indian Navy that, when their ship left for the East, he wrote a complimentary letter to her Commanding Officer. The ship was H.M.I.S. *Sutlej*, one of our latest sloops built in the United Kingdom.

This was only one of the compliments that the ship's company received while serving in European waters. Officers of high rank in the Royal Navy who inspected H.M.I.S. *Sutlej* expressed pleasure at the sloop's appearance and the bearing of those in the vessel.

Before the *Sutlej* left the United Kingdom, parties of ratings visited London, being cordially welcomed by the Indian Troops' Comforts Committee at the India House. During one of these trips the men gave a concert to an appreciative audience that included Indian soldiers.

While proceeding to, and also when returning from Great Britain, officers and ratings were hospitably entertained in South African ports.

At Durban the draft *en route* to Europe were given a civic reception after marching past the Mayor. Later they were taken for a ride round the city, attended a cinema

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 166]

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1942



—RUSSIAN WOMEN GO TO IT—



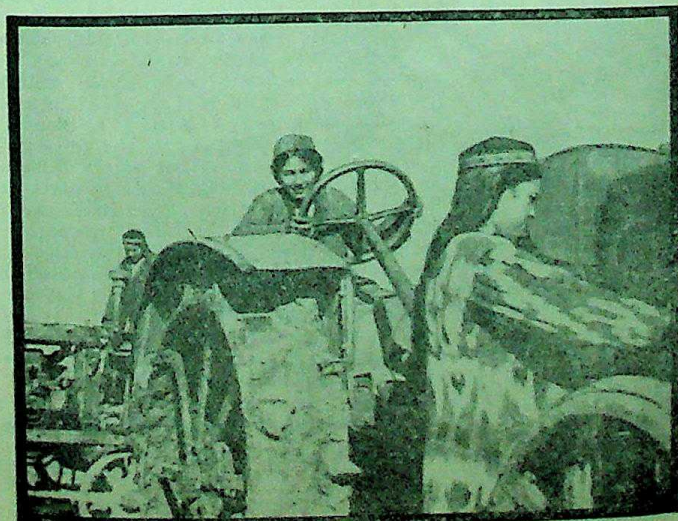
SAVCHENKO (RIGHT), CAPTAIN, AND HER FIRST MATE, GRISHINA, OF A RUSSIAN SHIP, THE FIRST TO BE MANNED BY A CREW OF WOMEN



RUSSIAN GIRLS HANDLE AUTOMATIC RIFLES, TOO



A SOVIET MEDICAL NURSE OF SEBASTOPOL



THESE BOKHARA WOMEN SERVE AS MACHINE-GUN DRIVERS



RUSSIAN WOMEN FIRE-GUARDS IN AN OILFIELD



# UNITED STATES INDEPENDENCE DAY MESSAGES

**H**is Excellency the Viceroy, in a message of greeting and good wishes to the President of the United States, on the occasion of the American Independence Day, states:

"On behalf of the Princes and Peoples of India I take this opportunity of sending to you, Mr. President, a message of goodwill on this momentous Fourth of July, when we are fighting side by side for all that our common civilisation holds dear.

"It has been a source of pride and pleasure to me during the past few months to welcome to India so many Americans. A very real spirit of understanding exists between your representatives and our own, and thanks to the increasing co-ordination of our joint efforts, with those of our Chinese neighbours, and of our other Allies, we look forward to the time when the United Nations will control the ocean and the air, and when we shall hurl back the forces of the aggressor nations from those territories from which the name of freedom has for the time been banished.

"The process of turning peace-loving democracies to war purposes is necessarily a slow one. Nevertheless, here in India we have been profoundly impressed by the acceleration of the war effort of the United States, and we believe that by the next Fourth of July, a great advance will have been made by the United Nations towards the common goal."

## MESSAGE TO U. S. COMMISSIONER

Here is the Viceroy's message to the acting American Commissioner:

"I take the occasion of the National Holiday of the United States to send to you, and to the United States Forces in India, a few words of cordial greeting on behalf of the Government of India. It is a matter of deep satisfaction to myself and to my colleagues to be working side by side with the representatives of the United States, both civil and military, at this momentous juncture of the world's history.

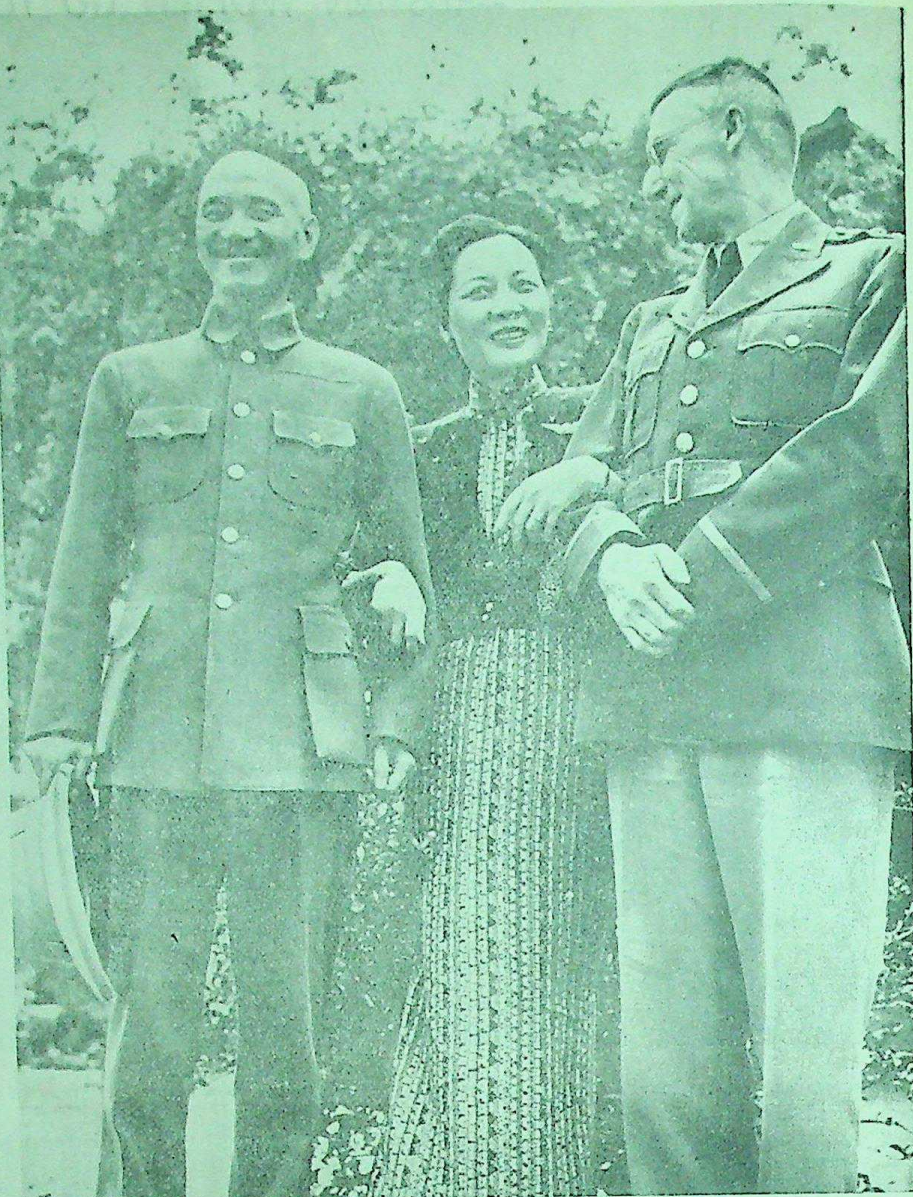
"I have no doubt that the Forces of the United Nations will triumph over the Axis Powers and that the spirit of understanding and co-operation, which happily exists between the United States of America and India, will in due course become a major factor in achieving victory."

## REPLY TO VICEROY'S MESSAGE

The Acting American Commissioner's reply reads:

"On behalf of the Americans in India, I have the honour to express deep appreciation of the stirring message Your Excellency has so graciously sent us on the occasion of our National Holiday. Inspired by Your Excellency's example we are proud to be joined with the people of India and the Allied Forces in contributing our best efforts towards the inevitable triumph of the United Nations.

"We firmly share Your Excellency's conviction that the mutual sympathy and spirit of co-operation which, as you say, so happily exists between India and the United States, will before long prove its efficacy as a force in defeating our common enemies."



Madame Chiang Kai-shek stands arm-in-arm with Marshal Chiang Kai-shek, and Lt.-General Stillwell (right), Chief of Staff in the Chinese theatre of war

## "JAPAN SHALL NEVER REALISE HER FANTASTIC DREAMS"

—Marshal Chiang Kai-shek

In reply to General Wavell's message of greetings on the fifth anniversary of China's struggle against Japanese aggression, the following message from Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek has reached New Delhi:—

"I deeply appreciate your greetings to me and our fighting forces on the fifth anniversary of our war of resistance. Such sentiments of friendship and words of encouragement as embodied in your message are all the more gratifying for the very reason that they come directly from comrades in arms bound by the ties of common destiny and ideals. I am sure that Japan shall never realise her fantastic dreams of enslaving the Continent of Asia. I am also confident that our common goal of defeating the brutal forces of aggression will be successfully attained through our ceaseless effort. Such is my conviction and that of our fighting forces, a conviction growing day by day more powerful and universal. I shall exhort my armed services to redouble their effort for victory so as to

prove themselves worthy of your expectation and trust."

General Wavell's message to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek reads:—

"On the fifth anniversary of the treacherous attack made on your country by Japan I send you and the gallant fighting forces of China greetings from myself and the fighting forces of the India Command. For over five years China standing alone has resisted the aggressor. She has set an example of fortitude and courage which has won the admiration of the entire world. On this anniversary China is no longer alone. She now fights with the forces of the United Nations at her side. Chinese and Indian troops fought side by side in Burma and it gives me particular pleasure that Chinese troops are now serving in India with their former comrades. We wish you all success in your determination to rid your country and the world of the aggressor confident in the certainty that the fast gathering strength of the United Nations will finally crush the Axis forces and once again bring peace."



## OVER 300 FIELD MEDICAL UNITS RAISED IN INDIA

Since the beginning of the war over 300 Field Medical Units have been raised in India and are functioning in the United Kingdom, Middle East, East and West Africa, Palestine, Iraq, Iran, Ceylon, the Seychelles and in India itself. The medical field units rendered distinguished services in the Malaya and Burma campaigns.

Ambulance trains, fully equipped and manned by personnel from the Medical Services in India, have been provided for the Broad, Standard and Metre gauge railways in the Eastern theatres of war. Hospital ships and craft of various types have been employed for the evacuation of casualties on the waterways of Iraq, Iran, Burma, Assam and Eastern Bengal.

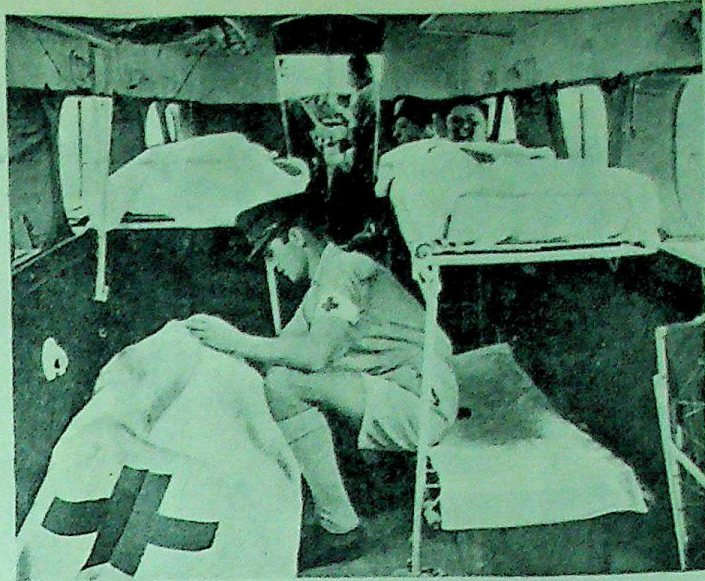
Unlike other arms of the Defence Services, field units of the Medical Services do not exist in peace time. On the outbreak of hostilities field medical units had to be raised and formed *ab initio*, and medical personnel and equipment provided for the rapidly-expanding Army.

### New Training Schools

There has been a rapid rise in the number of medical personnel since 1939, but although the expansion has proceeded at a brisk pace, the present assets are still insufficient to meet future commitments. In order to cope with this, many new training schools have been started and the existing ones rapidly expanded. The services of expert consultants from the United Kingdom have been secured to enrich the existing medical talent in India.

A new, centrally controlled Army Medical Store organisation has been created in India to meet the enormous demands from the Military Medical Services. This service is now directly responsible for provisioning, stock-holding and accounting etc. An inspection section, staffed by expert technicians, has also been formed.

The Army Medical Store organisation is expanding rapidly as it has not only



Flying field ambulances are now used for the speedy transport of the war-injured to places where they can receive expert treatment

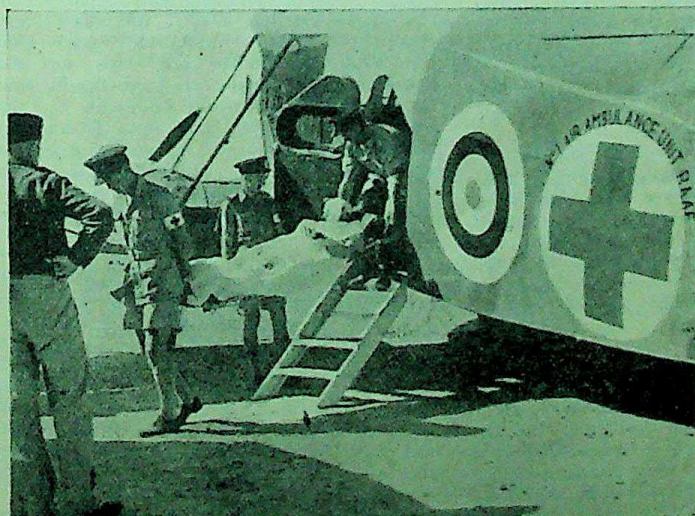


A CASUALTY IS TAKEN ON STRETCHER INTO THE PLANE

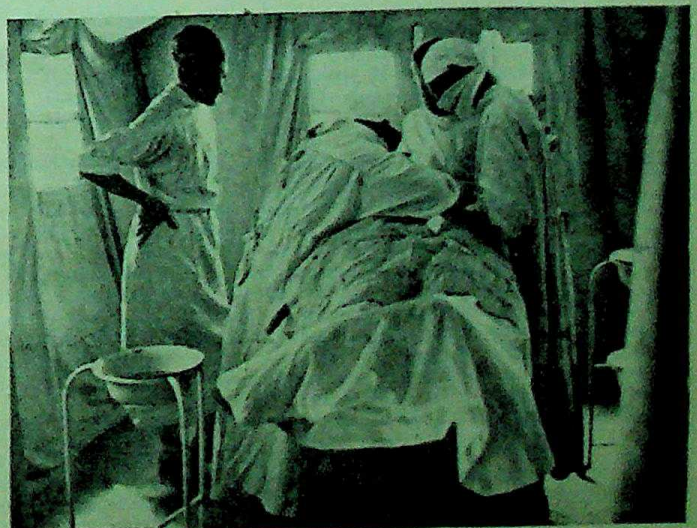


OFFICERS OF AMBULANCE PLANE STUDYING MAP BEFORE TAKING OFF

to cater for the demands of the Army, but also for the Royal Indian Navy and the Royal Air Force. In addition to the normal calls on its resources it has, on occasions, provided medical assistance for the American, Chinese and Russian Armies.

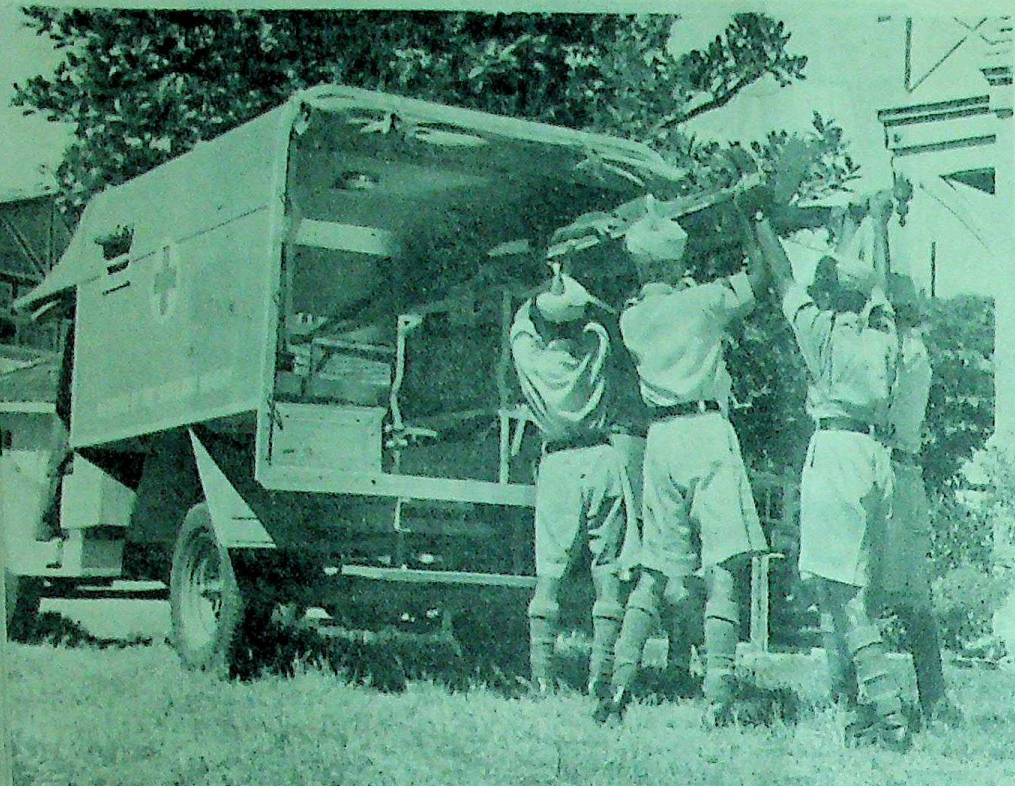


A PATIENT IS REMOVED ON STRETCHER FROM THE PLANE



THE DOCTORS ARE PERFORMING A SURGICAL OPERATION





Volunteers of Bombay's Transport Division, St. John Ambulance Brigade, place casualty in Ambulance Car

## THE INDIAN RED CROSS

**B**roadcasting on "The Work of the Indian Red Cross" from the Delhi station of A.I.R. on July 6, 1942, Mr. H. V. Hodson said:

When I was a boy I read book after book of adventure and bravery in war. Their heroes were soldiers, sailors, airmen, often boys who got themselves into the firing line, and I remember there was even one called "The Young Franc-Tireurs," a tale of guerilla warfare behind the Prussian lines in the war of 1870.

But I don't recall any boys' book which had for its hero a doctor or an ambulance driver or a stretcher-bearer. That's rather surprising: for what a thrilling story of adventure and selfless courage you could write with a title like "Under the Red Cross"—a story, too, that it would do us all good to read, old and young alike, with its theme of brave, devoted service to the common cause of mankind.

### International Symbol

The Red Cross, the most famous international symbol in the world, stands every where for relief of the sick and wounded and the victims of disaster. It is so familiar an emblem to us all that it may be hard for us to realise that within the lifetime of living men it was completely unknown. Just 80 years ago a Swiss writer called Henri Dunant published in Geneva a book telling of the hideous suffering of the wounded in the Italian wars, and inspired by this only two years later, the famous Geneva Red Cross Convention was signed.

The Red Cross and kindred organisations like the St. John Ambulance serve the cause of relief to the suffering in peace as well as in war, but of course in wartime their duties multiply and expand with the greater needs of suffering humanity. Under the sign of the Red Cross the wounded

are saved, transported, healed and comforted; and prisoners of war are protected, given extra food and comforts, and their relatives and countrymen enabled to keep in touch with them.

While there is an International Red Cross Organisation, with headquarters in Geneva (Switzerland), to render those services which are beyond the power of national bodies—particularly those of countries at war with each other—including the working of a kind of international post office for prisoners of war, each nation has its own organisation whose main war-time duty is to look after its own soldiers, sailors and airmen who are sick or wounded or who fall into enemy hands. Every one of those national organisations uses the emblem of the Red Cross, which was originally chosen as being the reverse of the Swiss flag—a white cross on a red background—but in some Muslim countries the Red Crescent has been used, and in Iran the Red Lion and Sun.

### Service To Humanity

But remember that it is humanity which the Red Cross serves, not an exclusive national cause. The wounded on the battlefield are not sorted into ours whom we succour and the enemy's who can fend for themselves until an enemy ambulance or an enemy first-aid man can reach them. That is not the spirit of the Red Cross, whose watchword is service and whose parish is the world.

I heard the other day a story which shows the spirit of the Red Cross on the battlefield. In Libya a German armoured column captured a Field Ambulance unit—consisting of about 100 men with all equipment—belonging to the 4th Indian Division. The column moved on, leaving behind with the unit their colonel, who was gravely wounded. The German doctors were so

interested in watching the Indian Medical Service doctor give the colonel a blood transfusion of a type they had never previously seen that they did not even notice an Indian army officer who had walked across from his supply column which was passing nearby, not realising that the ambulance unit had been captured. The officer slipped back silently as soon as he saw how the land lay. He was able to walk in and out past the German guard because they assumed he was one of the unit, who were of course being allowed to carry on their work among the wounded unrestrained, under the sign of the Red Cross.

### "Much More Vast"

Now that brings me to another point which it is important to keep clear. The work of succour to the sick and wounded which is carried on beneath the sign of the Red Cross is much more vast than can be or ought to be accomplished by the private, charitable Red Cross societies—and the similar organisations which are linked with them. Every army, navy and air force has the prime duty of looking after its own sick and wounded men, of rescuing them from the battlefield or the sea, of providing doctors and medicines, transport and hospitals, of feeding them and re-clothing them in uniform. All this is organised and paid for by the various Governments.

It is where military duty dissolves into humanitarian help that the non-governmental bodies step in. So when you subscribe to the Red Cross and St. John Funds don't think you are merely saving the army money or doing things that the Government ought to do. Every article or service that you are helping to buy means *extra* aid and comfort for your countrymen who are victims of war, something which they would not otherwise get.

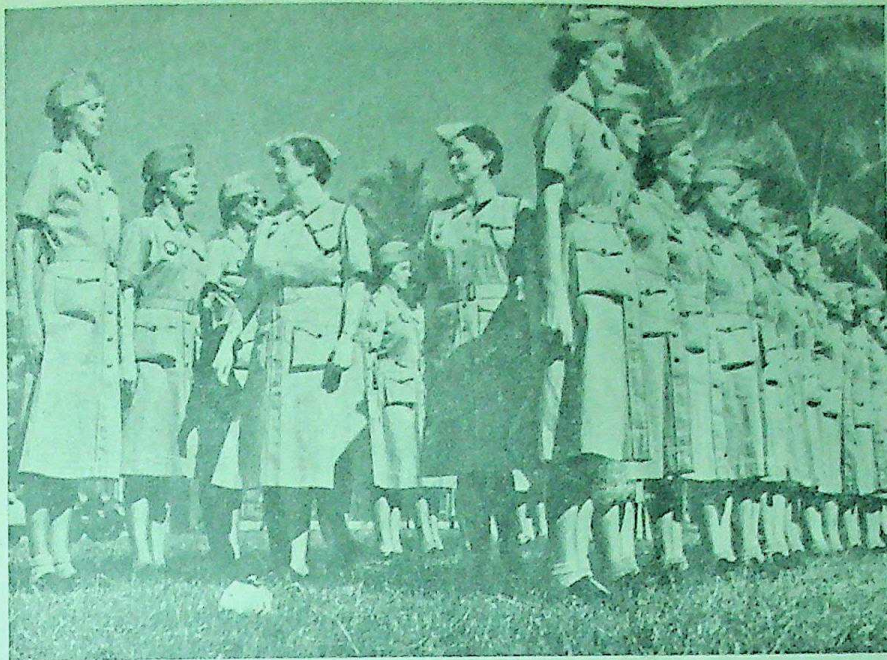
If you were a wounded soldier you would not realise where the official provision ends and private help begins: all you would know is that instead of being a mere "case," a numbered unit of military strength temporarily out of repair, you were a human being, cared for and comforted by your fellowmen, and given as good a time as possible while you were still hurt and ill.

### Need For Help

In the hospital, where you would have been brought by stretcher party and ambulance, perhaps by Red Cross train and ship, the medical and nursing attendance and the essential equipment would be provided by Government, but all the extra comforts—the special foods, the clean clothing and hospital linen which are such a boon to weary men from the battlefield, the cigarettes and books, the games and occupations, the comfortable chairs and the radio, the motor bus trips and the stationery for writing to your family and friends—all these would be given by the Red Cross. If you were in a theatre of war under the Indian Command, or if you were an Indian soldier, they would be given by the Joint War Organisation of the Indian Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance.

I want to tell you a little more about the work of this organisation, to show you how vast its responsibilities are, and how much it both needs and deserves the help of all of us if it is not to fail in its task. Its field of responsibility includes both Indian and British troops in India, Iran and Iraq, all Indian troops in the Middle East and East Africa, and all Indian prisoners of war. It is an Indian organisation primarily charged with helping Indians; it is indeed concerned also with British troops who are directly engaged in defending India, but on this account it receives some help from the British Red Cross.





Volunteer Women Drivers of Bombay's Transport Division, St. John Ambulance Brigade, are inspected by a senior officer of the Division



SENIOR OFFICERS OF BOMBAY'S TRANSPORT DIVISION AT A CONFERENCE

At the same time it is but the Indian part of a world system charged with helping all mankind. It is entirely unofficial, non-political and non-violent. Some of its money comes from the Viceroy's and Governors' War Funds to which the people of India have contributed so generously; some from State war funds; some from a few magnificent gifts headed by the 2½ lakhs of rupees given by the Maharaja of Gwalior; a great part comes from smaller donations from individuals all over the country.

#### Contributions

One easy way of contributing is to buy books of Red Cross and St. John Stamp Seals—one rupee for a book of 16—and stick them on each and every letter that you send, not of course instead of postage stamps but to help the Joint War Organi-

sation directly with your annas and to remind everyone who sees your letter about its work. Then there are contributions in kind. All over India women's work parties have been making bandages, hospital clothing and warm garments for our sick and wounded men and for prisoners of war. So there is another way in which maybe you can help.

And while we are thinking of contributions in kind let us not forget all the other voluntary helpers who work at the headquarters of the organisation or who pack the parcels for the prisoners of war or who give their services in other ways. Perhaps there's a voluntary job waiting for you.

Before I leave the intake side of the Joint War Organisation I want to tell you one further interesting point about it.

More and more of the things that it buys comes nowadays not only from the factory industries of India but from her cottage industries too—all kinds of woven materials, sheets, blankets, pyjamas and many other things.

#### Letters To War Prisoners

So much for the intake. One side of the output we have already seen—the help and comfort for the sick and wounded. The Indian Red Cross also serves all Indian prisoners of war, and as the conflict sways this way and that more and more people in India are looking to the Red Cross to help them trace missing soldiers, sailors and airmen, to enable them to write to friends and relatives who have been captured, and to hear from them, and to send them parcels which will make their life more tolerable.

Only a few days ago, as a result of the unremitting effort of the Red Cross, the Japanese Government at last announced an address and authorised a route through which letters may be sent to prisoners of war and internees in Malaya and other Japanese occupied territories. It was a joyful day for thousands of people in India: without the Red Cross it would never have dawned. If you have not read in your newspaper how you can write letters to such prisoners or internees, ask at the post office. You cannot yet send air mail or parcels or telegrams—but thanks to the Red Cross you can now send both air mail and parcels to prisoners of war in German or Italian hands.

#### Review Of Work

Here are some of the things which the Indian Joint War Organisation is doing for Indian prisoners of war.

It sends them parcels of food. Every country is bound by its pledged word to feed prisoners of war as well as its own garrison troops—but this may be a pretty low standard in enemy countries, even if they keep their word, and only through the Red Cross can the Indians in particular get the special Indian foodstuffs that they like and need.

Second, the Organisation sends parcels of clothing and comforts, including games, cigarettes and soap to Indian prisoners in Europe and North Africa, though it cannot yet send them to the Far East. It has been paying for 3,000 food parcels which have been packed every week in India House, London, for Indian prisoners of war, and for the parcels of clothing and comforts which have also been sent regularly. With the loss of Hongkong, Malaya, Burma and Libya, its task of helping Indian prisoners of war has been multiplied enormously. Those thousands of captured men—your defenders, perhaps your husbands, your sons, your brothers—may be short of food, they may be cold, ragged or dirty, they will certainly be without cigarettes or comforts unless the Red Cross can help them. Where is the money to come from, if not from you? If the money does not flow into the Joint War Organisation to match its new and urgent needs, it will not be able to do so much for those whom it has been helping hitherto; and you can guess how bitter their disappointment will be if their parcels don't come.

Third, the Organisation helps you to trace your friends or relatives who are prisoners of war, and to write to them and hear from them when they are found. But don't please write letters care of the Red Cross to be forwarded to prisoners or supposed prisoners. Ask someone in authority what you should do.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 159]



## HOLIDAY RESORT FOR INDIAN TROOPS IN NAIROBI

Ever since Indian troops, whether in combatant or non-combatant units, have been stationed in the East Africa Command, special provision has been made for comforts and amenities for them.

In Nairobi, through the co-operation of a local Indian merchant, a residence in the Parklands district was converted into a holiday resort and furnished with comforts by the Army Welfare Department.

### Free Cinema Tickets

The troops in Nairobi have also a well-equipped canteen at their disposal, while the Indian Seamen's and Sailors' Institute at Mombasa caters for sailors in port.

Indian troops on leave have been treated to visits to the Croydon Museum, cinema tickets and free rides on buses.

The Army Welfare Department has also used its Welfare Funds to meet demands from units for money and sports equipment for Indian personnel.

The task of the Army Welfare Organisation has been rendered difficult because of the fact that Indian personnel are scattered among many different units in the Command and are themselves drawn from several communities.



The Lady Lampson Hostel for Indian Army officers was recently opened in Cairo. Lady Lampson (wife of the British Ambassador) and General Auchinleck (left) and other military officers attended the ceremony.

## THE VICEROY'S WAR PURPOSES FUND

The non-recurring contributions to the war effort, offered by the Indian Princes up to the end of June, 1942, amounted approximately to Rs. 3,16,69,000 and recurring donations (annual figure) promised stood at about Rs. 36,64,000.

His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner made a further generous contribution of Rs. 3,00,000, representing the proceeds of a war lottery and war fête held in the State, to H.E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund. The gift was gratefully accepted by His

Excellency and will be used for the purchase of three aircraft for the Indian Air Force.

The public of Patna State have sent a further generous contribution of Rs. 1,857-11-6 to H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, which His Excellency has gratefully accepted.

The gift includes Rs. 94-2-3 contributed by the local Girl Guides Association and others for the Indian Red Cross Society.

Payments from the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund during the fortnight ended May 15,

1942, came to Rs. 16,333. Of these, the most important was a sum of £1,000 contributed overseas for the purchase of aircraft. In India Rs. 3,000 was given to the Mercantile Marine Department, Calcutta, for providing comforts to injured destitute seamen on arrival in India.

### "KOLAR DISTRICT"

The Mysore War Fund have contributed a further sum of Rs. 3,275 to the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund for the purchase of a Field Ambulance to be named 'Kolar District.' The gift has been gratefully accepted by His Excellency the Crown Representative.



The Nawab of Amb State, North-West Frontier Province, gave a party to wounded officers and soldiers at Abbottabad.



The Nawab of Amb State is addressing the gathering which included the Governor and important civil and military officials.



# WAR FUNDS

## OFFICER CADETS SUBSCRIBE FUNDS FOR ARMoured CARRIER

A sum of Rs. 10,500 has been subscribed by the cadets, staffs and general personnel of the Officers' Training School, Bangalore, for the purchase of an armoured carrier. A special donation of Rs. 5,000 was made by Messrs. Shamshuddin & Sons, the School contractors.

### A Donation From Kabul

The Indian traders in Kabul have sent a donation of Rs. 1,012-11 through His Majesty's Minister there, to H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund.

His Excellency has gratefully accepted the gift.

### Railway Employees' Gift

Employees of the Rohilkhand and Kumaon Railway Company, Ltd., Loco and Carriage Department, have subscribed Rs. 3,275 for the purchase of a motor ambulance for the Army in India.

### St. Dunstan's Section

The 61st list of donations and remittances received up to June 15, 1942, brings the total of the St. Dunstan's Section of the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund to Rs. 7,63,986-10-0 plus £263-2-1.

## AMENITIES FOR INDIAN SEAMEN

The question of providing comforts to Indian seamen is one which has been engaging the close attention of the Government of India. H. E. the Viceroy has also made contributions on various occasions from his War Purposes Fund out of which different funds have been started at the ports of Calcutta and Bombay for the benefit of Indian seamen.

The Indian Seamen's Amenities Fund has recently been created at Calcutta and Bombay with initial grants of Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 5,000, respectively, from the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund. The object of this fund is to supply to vessels carrying Indian crews books, games, requisites, etc., and to provide amenities, including the supply of warm clothing, when necessary, to Indian seamen in general.

### Payment Of Compensation

Not infrequently Indian seamen return to this country in an utterly destitute condition and require on their arrival clothing, food or other necessities of life, medical help and even money to buy railway tickets to their places. At the two ports mentioned above provision now exists to supply the necessary funds out of the grants received from H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund. So far about Rs. 6,000 has been

placed at the disposal of the Principal Officers, Mercantile Marine Department, Calcutta and Bombay, for the above purposes.

Arrangements have also been made by the Government of India for the payment of compensation to injured seamen and to the widows and children or other dependants of seamen who are missing, killed or taken prisoner by the enemy under the various Seamen's Compensation Schemes framed by His Majesty's Government. As, however, formal investigations into their claims to compensation naturally take some time, this involves great hardship to them. In order, therefore, to minimise their hardship, H. E. the Viceroy has placed at the disposal of the Principal Officers, Mercantile Marine Department, Calcutta and Bombay, a sum of Rs. 27,500 for giving advances in necessary cases to the seamen or their widows and children or other dependants.

## CHOCOLATES FOR WAR PRISONERS

The maximum quantity of chocolates in slabs which can be sent in any one parcel for a prisoner of war interned abroad in Western countries will henceforth be limited to 2 lbs. The maximum weight of each parcel will, however, continue to be 10 lbs.

## WAR LOAN INVESTMENTS

Here is a statement showing the amounts subscribed by each of the 11 Provinces, and by the Indian States and Centrally-Administered areas, to the Indian Defence Loans, in May, 1942, together with progressive totals for each Province, etc. :-

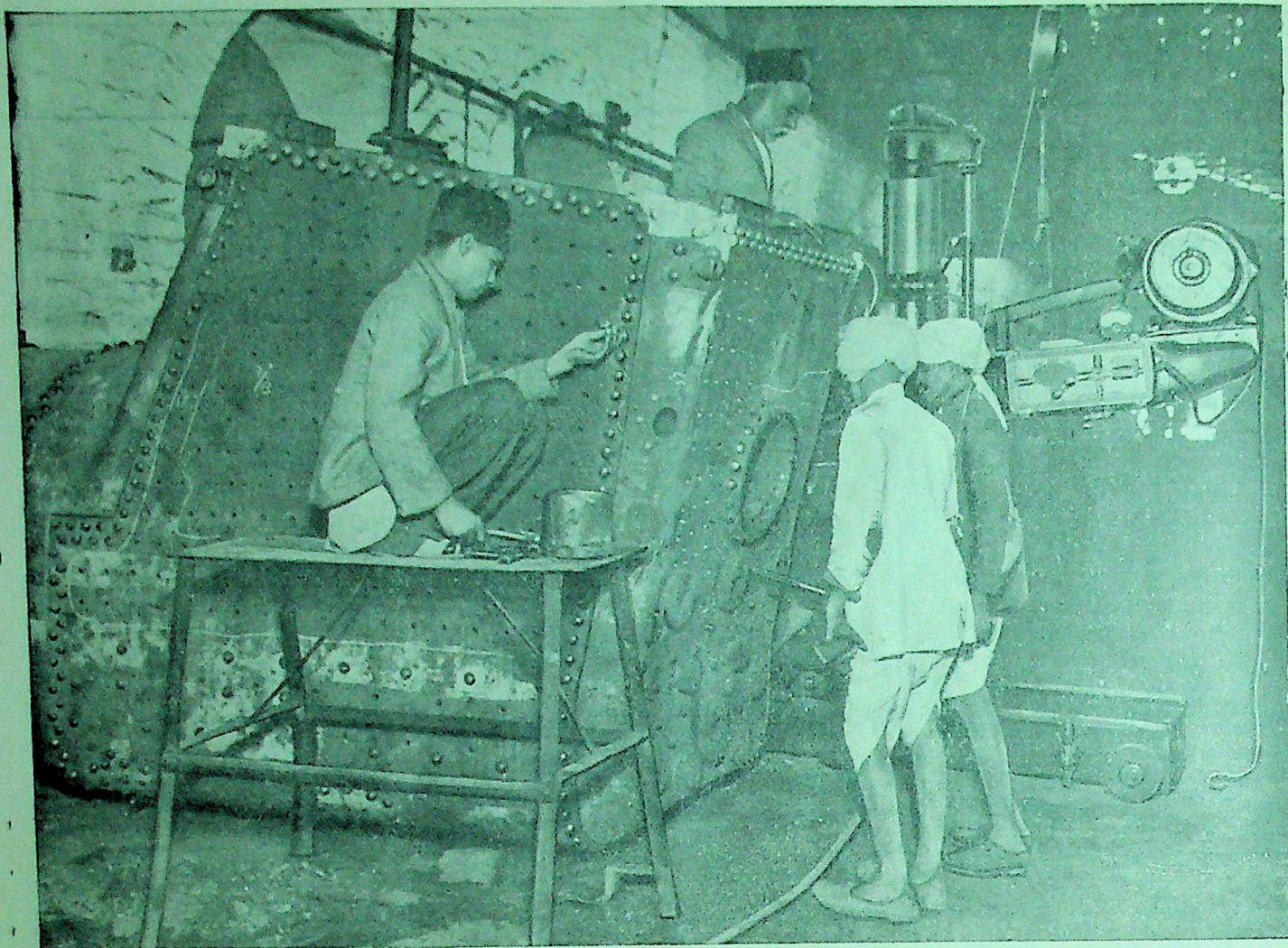
STATISTICS OF DEFENCE LOANS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 1942 (IN THOUSANDS)

Area.	3% Defence Loans.	Interest Free Bonds.		Defence Savings Certificates.			Defence Savings Bank.		Grand Total.	
	Total subscriptions up to the date of closing the 3% Loan 1949-52 (2nd Defence Loan).	Subscription for May 1942 (Preliminary).	Progressive total to end of the month.	Sales during May 1942 (Preliminary).	Encashments during the month.	Net sales for the month.	Progressive (net) total to end of the month.	Deposits during May 1942 (Preliminary).	Progressive total to end of the month.	Total of columns (2), (4), (8) and (10).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Bengal..	40,74.14	†	38.77	1.45	2.13	—68	77.71	9	1.56	41.92.18
Bombay ..	37,55.66	13	1,22.46	2.50	1.02	1.48	79.07	5	1.98	39.59.17
Punjab ..	5,10.84	82	15.69	1.33	78	55	55.28	15	2.37	5.84.18
U.P. ..	4,38.96	56	10.60	3.16	1.82	1.34	65.83	20	2.44	5.17.83
Madras ..	4,21.98	5	5.51	97	51	46	30.27	7	49	4.58.25
Sind ..	1,30.56	—	3.02	57	8	49	14.45	1	54	1.48.57
Bihar ..	90.47	4	5.55	52	50	2	34.05	2	42	1.30.49
Delhi ..	72.00	3	2.05	27	11	16	7.25	1	23	81.53
C.P. & Berar ..	30.00	†	1.38	58	31	27	20.22	6	33	51.93
N.-W. F. P. ..	23.74	1	1.29	13	7	6	6.19	1	19	31.41
Orissa ..	27.35	†	6	6	3	3	3.41	†	4	30.86
Baluchistan ..	17.04	3	57	13	3	10	3.56	†	†	21.17
Assam ..	11.03	†	20	25	25	—	7.28	1	25	18.76
Ajmer-Merwara ..	8.94	1	17	10	7	3	1.56	†	2	10.69
Coorg ..	2	—	—	†	†	†	15	—	†	17
Indian States and other Central Treasuries ..	2,57.99	2	66.99	88	60	28	35.16	3	1.03	3.61.17
Total .....	98,70.72	1,70	2,74.31*	12.90	8.31	4.59	4,41.44*	71	11.89*	1,05,98.36*

† Subscription less than Rs. 500.

\* Includes subsequent adjustments of previous preliminary figures.





ASSEMBLY WORK ON A NEW LOCOMOTIVE BOILER IN AN INDIAN RAILWAY WORKSHOP. THE OUTER CASING HAS BEEN RIVETTED

## REPAIRS TO RAILWAY ROLLING STOCK

**D**espite the war, the present repair position of locomotives and wagons in Indian railway workshops and sheds compares favourably with that during the pre-war period and the current position on British and American railways. This is indicated in the latest available repair statistics relating to India, Britain and America.

From statistics relating to India, it is seen that, in spite of all the difficulties under which railways have been working since the outbreak of war, railway administrations in this country have succeeded in reducing the number of locomotives and wagons which are under, or awaiting, repairs in workshops and sheds or sick lines.

The average number of broad-gauge locomotives awaiting repair was 994 in the pre-war period of June-August 1939. In the corresponding period of 1941, this was reduced to 903. The percentage to total stock was 18.8 in the former period and 17.1 in the latter. Latest available statistics relate to the quarter ended February, 1942, when the average number was 850 as compared with 965 in the corresponding quarter ended February, 1939, the percentage reduction being from 18 to 16. Similar reductions are shown as regards metre-gauge locomotives too.

As regards the average number of broad-gauge wagons, too, under or awaiting repair, similar reductions are seen as compared with the figures for the pre-war period. In the quarter immediately preceding the outbreak of war, the number was 8,638; in the corresponding quarter of 1941 it fell to 6,994. Expressed in terms of percentage of total stock, the reduction was from 5.6 per cent to 4.5 per cent. During the corresponding periods, the number of metre-gauge wagons awaiting repairs declined from 2,115 to 1,951, the percentage reduction being from 3.8 to 3.5.

During the latest quarter referred to above, broad-gauge wagons under or awaiting repair amounted to 5,840 and metre-gauge wagons 1,629 as compared with 7,128 and 1,663, respectively, in the corresponding quarter ended February, 1939. The percentage reduction has been from 4.6 to 3.7 and 3.0 to 2.9 respectively.

### A Comparison

From recent figures available in technical papers it is seen that not only the percentage of engines under or awaiting repair in workshops in India to the total number on the line is nearly as low as that to which the L. M. and S. Railway in England are able to work down, but that the percentage of engines under or awaiting repair in running sheds is equal to,

and in a number of cases better than, the figure for large American railways.

The percentage figure for the L. M. and S. Railway workshops, recently given, was 4.5. The average percentage in India (for shops) was 5.3 during the quarter ended March, 1942.

Freight engines under or awaiting repair in sheds and depots on six of the big American systems varied from 11 per cent to 19 per cent in December, 1941. The variation in this respect was from 8.2 per cent to 17.2 per cent in March 1942 for Indian broad-gauge Railways.

### CHARCOAL FOR PRODUCER GAS PLANT

Excess of moisture in charcoal used in producer-gas-operated vehicles is a drag on the whole system and causes poor performance. It also means extra useless weight in the charcoal.

Users of these vehicles, therefore, should ensure, at all times and particularly during the monsoon, that the charcoal which is fed into the generator is kept as dry as practicable. The moisture content should not be more than 5 per cent.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1942



## COMMUNICATIONS

If the charcoal is wet, the heat of the fire in the generator causes the moisture to evaporate from the charcoal lying round the actual fire zone. This steam is drawn off with the gas. As the gas passes through the coolers and filters, the steam that comes along with it also cools and condenses, thus interfering with the filtering action by tending to clog the filters with the solid matter which it picks up on the way. It further tends to wet the filter material, thus impeding the gas flow.

From every point of view, therefore, the watchword of the producer-gas user should be "keep your charcoal dry." Wet charcoal can be dried by warming over a hot plate.

### QUALITY OF INDIAN CHARCOALS

A preliminary report on what constitutes a good quality charcoal for efficient performance in the producer gas plant is published in a leaflet just issued by the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun.

With the great increase in the number of lorries and buses which have been converted to run on producer gas using charcoal, the problem of supplying suitable charcoal for the purpose has assumed importance. No complete and tested data for various kinds of charcoal for producer gas purposes are available in India.

The Institute has started a thorough examination of all Indian charcoals both in the laboratory and under service conditions, and has published the information available on the subject giving some factors, e.g., ash content, moisture, volatiles, density, size, packing, hardness and cleanliness, affecting the quality of charcoal for producer gas plant.

### SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNTS OF EVACUEES

Some evacuees, who had savings bank accounts in Malaya and Singapore, have been unable, owing to their hurried departure or other circumstances, to bring with them their pass books, or the receipt issued for it by the postmaster of the office where the pass book was handed over for transfer of the account.

It has now been decided that such evacuees should be paid the amount at their credit on proper identification, provided they produce a declaration, sworn before a magistrate, as to the amount standing to their credit and execute an indemnity bond, with two satisfactory sureties, undertaking, in the event of the statement proving incorrect, to refund the amount.

### VILLAGERS HELP NAVAL OFFICERS

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 149]

the wind, eddies and current sometimes caused the craft to get out of control. One flat, even with her anchors down, grounded on a sandy beach, fortunately clear of the rocks; but all the villagers turned out at night and without offer of reward gladly helped to refloat her.

Once through the channel the flats were taken in tow by another deep-sea ship waiting on the other side.

## LETTERS TO WAR PRISONERS AND CIVILIAN INTERNEES IN FAR EAST

Arrangements have now been made for the despatch of postal communications to prisoners of war and civilian internees in Japanese hands. Only unregistered letters and postcards can be sent at present. They should be clearly written or typed and should be posted in the ordinary way and must not be sent to the Red Cross Commissioner to be forwarded.

Such communications may be written in English, Urdu or Hindi; but the address, including the address of the sender, must be in English. They should deal with purely personal matters, care being taken to see that no information of any kind, which might be of any use to the enemy, is given.

No references to naval, military, aerial, economic or political matters are allowed and movements of any members of His Majesty's Forces or any warship or merchant ship must not be mentioned.

In view of the difficulty the Japanese may have in censoring letters, it is recommended that both letters and postcards should be brief and clear.

No postage stamps need be affixed on the letters but they must bear the inscription "Prisoners of War Post."

These arrangements are provisional and liable to alteration.

#### Earlier Report

An earlier report regarding Allied Governments' efforts to obtain from the Japanese information about prisoners of war and civilian internees in the Far East, stated:

"An assurance was received from the Japanese authorities that detailed lists would be provided, but the result was only two

short lists, containing altogether 12 names, all of personnel who had died of illness in Hongkong. In response to further inquiries and urgent representations, another promise of lists was received, but no names of prisoners of war have yet been notified.

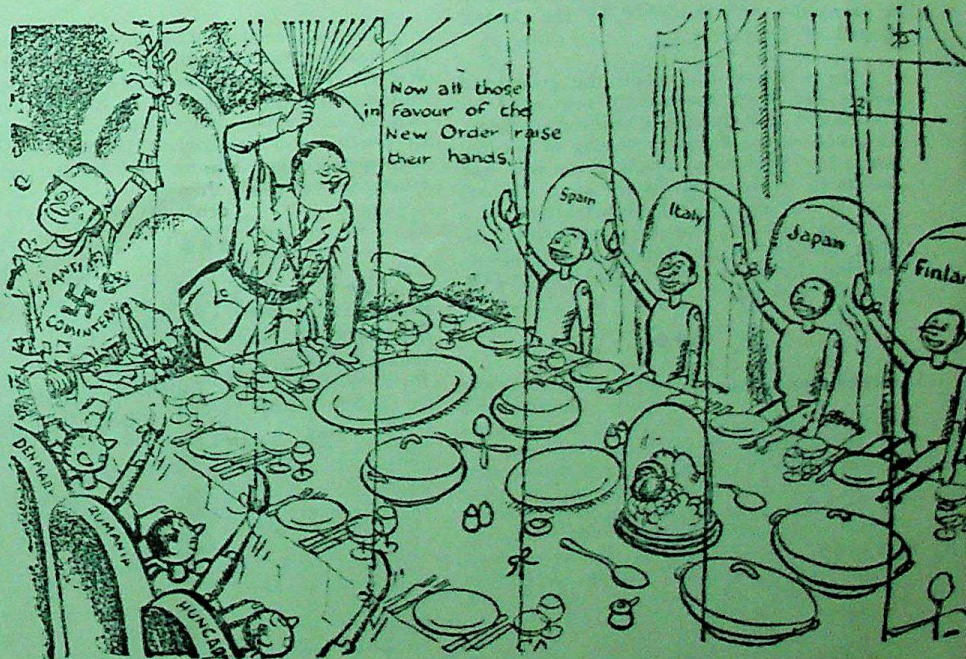
"In regard to mail, the Japanese Government has been asked to agree to the setting up of a service for prisoners *via* the U.S.S.R. and to indicate a central address in Japan to which correspondence could be sent until the prisoners' camp addresses became known.

"Plans to send supplies of food and clothing to prisoners in Japanese hands have also been held up because the Japanese authorities have not yet consented to proposals which have been made. In the cases of Hongkong and Singapore, however, supplies up to the limit allowed by the Japanese are being distributed in the prisoners' camps with the help of local missionaries, to whom funds have been sent."

### INDIAN RED CROSS

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 155]

Now there are thousands of people in India today, and soon there will be thousands more, who have had great loads taken off their minds by news of their loved ones which the Red Cross has brought, or whose friends or relatives in enemy hands are getting comforts, food and news of their homes and friends, thanks to the Red Cross. What better way is there of expressing those thanks than by giving a thank-offering to the funds which have made all this possible? Send it to the Red Cross Commissioner, Kelvin Grove, Simla. Then you, too, will feel that you are enlisted in this great army of mercy and service, under the banner of the Red Cross.



THE PUPPET PARTY



# EDUCATION-HEALTH-LANDS

**Quinine Supplies** A conference attended by representatives of the Central Government and the Provinces to discuss the measures to be taken to meet the cessation of quinine supplies from Java was held at New Delhi on July 11, 1942. The Hon'ble Mr. N. R. Sarker, Member for Education, Health and Lands, presided.

The Conference reviewed the position in regard to supplies of quinine and other anti-malaria remedies and reached the conclusion that, with economy in use, the quinine supplies available, together with supplies of synthetic quinine substitutes expected to be revived, would be sufficient for India to tide over a period of at least five years. There was general agreement that in order to utilise to the best advantage the available resources, there should be central control of the allocation of the outturns of provincial factories. In making such allocations the special needs of particular provinces would be given full consideration.

**Restrictions Withdrawn** Information has been received by the Public Health Commissioner with the Government of India that the Government of Ceylon have withdrawn quarantine restrictions on account of small-pox against passengers arriving from Karachi and Bombay.

The Afghan Government have removed restrictions, on account of cholera, against travellers from India.

**Weeds In Canals** For many years the growth of water weeds in the irrigation canals of the Bombay-Deccan has been a serious obstacle to efficient management, reducing the discharge and necessitating frequent canal closures. The causes of weed growth and the methods of their prevention have been examined in a pamphlet just published by the Central Board of Irrigation.

In some of the canals the growth of weeds has been successfully prevented by the recent introduction of the 'rush system'. It involves the complete closing of a canal for a few days so as to allow the bed and weeds to be dried out by the sun. Where this is not possible, the construction of a suitable pick-up weir is recommended so that fine silt is maintained in suspension, making the water turbid, which reduces the growth of weeds.

**River Behaviour** A new subject—river behaviour, training and control—important for the maintenance of canal headworks and the training of rivers through bridges, figured prominently on the agenda for the annual meeting of the Research Committee of the Central Board of Irrigation held in Simla from July 14 to 18. Rao Bahadur L. Venkatakrishna Ayyar, I.S.E., Chief Engineer, Irrigation, Madras, and President of the Board, presided.

Progress has been made in the study of river behaviour at the research stations. The task now undertaken by the Board

and its Research Committee is, however, probably the first attempt in India to deal with the problem by a Committee of engineers and research workers.

Two other subjects included for the first time were "Soil Mechanics," in connection with earthen dams and canal banks, and "rainfall run off", dealing with the quantity and rate of discharge of floods from catchments of various sizes.

The Committee discussed the reports of work carried out at the five irrigation research stations. Among other subjects on the agenda were: flow in rivers and canals, hydraulics of boulder rivers, methods of measuring discharges, design of distributory heads, design of canal falls, silting of reservoirs, staunching of canals to prevent loss of water and waterlogging of lands.

**Locusts** The immigration of stray locusts of gregarious character from Iran, Arabia, etc., which started during the second fortnight of May increased during the first fortnight of June. During this period there were heavy dust-storms all over Rajputana and Sind from south-west and north-east.

A number of swarms have been reported from Baluchistan, Sind, Rajputana, Bahawalpur and Khairpur States. Swarms are likely to enter Upper Baluchistan, Western India States, etc.

The majority of swarms are yet sexually immature. They are likely to mature and lay eggs wherever good precipitation is received. The rainfall received so far may not be adequate to lead to successful egg-laying but further good showers of rain are likely to make the areas suitable for oviposition. Therefore, areas receiving rainfall in next few weeks should be closely watched for resting and ovipositing locusts.

The anti-locust organisations of Sind and various States in Rajputana, etc., and Western India are advised to be very vigilant and ready for action. Resting and ovipositing locusts can easily be destroyed by beating and burning. This will reduce subsequent work of egg and hopper destruction.

**Burmese Buddhist Monasteries** The Government of Burma have sanctioned the grant of regular monthly donations for the upkeep of Burmese Buddhist monasteries established in India. Each Burmese monk who is in need of a donation will receive a regular monthly remittance and the Head Priest of each monastery will receive, in addition, a monthly sum for the upkeep of the monastery.

The principal Burmese Buddhist monastery in India is at Calcutta through which in normal times most Burmese Buddhist pilgrims passed on their way to the Buddhist holy places of India. The other Burmese Buddhist monasteries are at Buddha Gaya, Rajghir, Benares, Sarnath, Kusinara, Balrampur, Sravasti and Lucknow.

Many Burmese Buddhist evacuees from Burma are now residing as laymen in these monasteries.

## Gift For Shrine At Meshed

The Government of India were recently informed by His Majesty's Consul-General at Meshed that the titles of the covers of the books in the library attached to the celebrated shrine of Imam Reza at Meshed were urgently in need of gilding. The Government of India therefore decided as a gesture of respect to the Shrine and of amity towards the people of Persia to present 100 grammes of gold leaf to the Mutwalli Bashi of the shrine. The gold leaf has since been despatched to the Consul-General who will make the presentation to the shrine on behalf of the Government of India.

## Indian School Of Mines

High percentage of success at examinations is reported by Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, for 1941 and 1942 sessions.

Of the 32 candidates who were successful at the various examinations conducted by the Department of Mines in 1940-41, 21 were students (present or past) of the Indian School of Mines. Nine First Class and four Second Class Mine Manager's Certificates and eight Mine Surveyor's Certificates were secured by students of the School.

In 1942, students of the Indian School of Mines secured 11 out of 34 successes at the Surveyor's Certificate examination; 16 out of 20 at the Second Class Coal Manager's Certificate examination; and 10 out of 14 at the First Class Coal Manager's Certificate examination.

Several of the students passed the Departmental examinations while actually studying at the School.

## I. S. T.

As a daylight saving measure rendered necessary owing to lighting restrictions in the Eastern Provinces, it was previously decided to advance Indian Standard Time by one hour in the Provinces of Assam, Bihar and Orissa and States lying to the East of 82½°E and to maintain the Indian Standard Time in the rest of India. Since, however, in the present circumstances of the war, the existence of two standards of time within India may involve danger of a confusion which might prove prejudicial to the defence of India, it is considered essential to have a uniform standard of time throughout India.

It is believed that during summer adequate daylight would be available in the Eastern Provinces and States to meet the requirements of the Civil Defence Services, if the old Indian Standard Time were restored in that area, and the Government of India have, therefore, decided that Indian Standard Time 5½ hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time should be enforced throughout India during summer months. The change in the provinces concerned came into force with effect from May 15, 1942, and it is expected that the States concerned will fall into line as soon as possible.





Teak nursery bed sown in May 1933 after the removal of stumps in April 1934. The small remaining seedlings, which were suppressed during the first year, together with the germination of dormant seed, produced another fully stocked bed by April 1935 without any further attention or expense

## MADRAS TEAK NURSERIES

India possesses roughly 100,000 acres of teak plantations, which are being increased at the rate of about 5,000 acres per year. Teak is planted by means of root and shoot cuttings (called 'stumps') and to plant up her annual extension of 1,500 acres, Madras alone needs some 2,000,000 to 2,500,000 of these stumps every year.

In a record entitled "Stump production in Madras teak nurseries," Mr. A. L. Griffith,

Silviculturist at the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, deals with storage and transport and describes how to get the best outturn of stumps of the best size, with the most economical use of seed and nursery space, and how to make use of undersized plants in years of shortage of teak seed. In the climatic conditions of the West Coast, it is better to use temporary dry annual nurseries rather than a big central nursery because in the latter, stump production, year by year, falls off

rapidly due to the exhaustion of the soil. The attacks of insect pests in a permanent nursery are also likely to be serious.

The work described in this record (Vol. IV, No. 5 of the Indian Forest Records) should help to improve the quality of teak stumps and reduce the cost of production. It also shows that Madras is not resting on its experience of teak planting of the past 100 years but is working to improve its methods and reduce its costs.

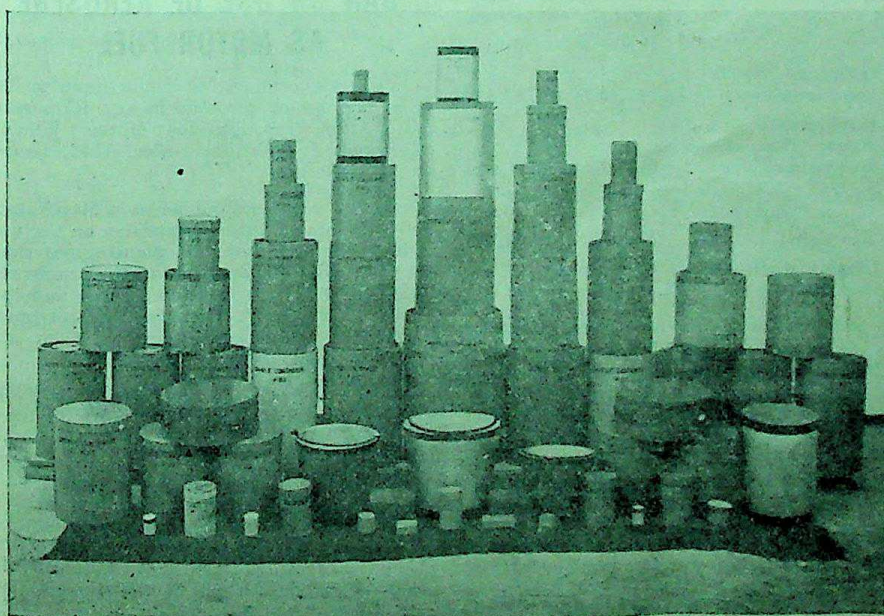
## PLYWOOD CONTAINERS

Substitute containers to take the place of the usual metal drums and cans used for oils, paints, greases, dry goods and other stores have been evolved by the Forest Research Institute.

Owing to the diversion of much tin and sheet metal to army use, manufacturers in India are in sore need of substitute containers. The Forest Research Institute anticipated this shortage many months back and started experiments on different types of plywood containers. It has now evolved many different designs of plywood drums, containers, canisters, boxes and buckets.

The plywood canisters used for food, dry goods and medical stores are normally lined with a shellac varnish unless required for some purpose which demands a special lining. The drums with iron bands round the top, centre and bottom, are made of strong plywood and are designed for oils, greases and paints. Various inner coatings have been tried and some have already passed the army tests. Ordinary glue is said to be a satisfactory inner coating for oils and greases.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 165]



The Forest Research Institute has evolved plywood containers as substitutes for metal cans and drums. They can be used for storing oils and paints



# COMMERCE—FINANCE—INDUSTRY

## SECOND STERLING DEBT REPATRIATION SCHEME

According to the Reserve Bank of India's "Report on Currency and Finance" for 1941-42, under the British and Indian Vesting Orders in respect of the second scheme of compulsory repatriation of Sterling Debt, announced on December 24, 1941, covering the non-terminable part of the debt, the stock surrendered up to March 31, 1942, under the former Order, amounted to £69.86 million and under the latter to £3.99 million, involving payments of £61.19 million in London and Rs. 4.79 crores in India. The total purchase value was Rs. 87.71 crores for £73.85 million of stock surrendered.

### Sterling Payments

Sterling payments were effected by the transfer of sterling treasury bills from the Issue to the Banking Department of the Reserve Bank. In distinction to the earlier schemes, as the prices of Indian rupee securities were temporarily depressed by war developments, it was decided that rupee counterparts would not be attractive to the market and the entire payment was

made in cash. The necessary rupee finance was provided by the creation of *ad hoc* treasury bills in the Issue Department for Rs. 90 crores, of which Rs. 75 crores remained outstanding at the end of March 1942.

From 1937-38 onwards, under the various schemes of repatriation such as open market purchases, the Licence Scheme of February 22, 1940, and the two compulsory schemes, sterling debt of the face value of £188.26 million had been repatriated till March 31, 1942. The purchase price amounted to £184.81 million or Rs. 246.41 crores. Rupee counterparts aggregating Rs. 152.35 crores have been created.

Thus out of a total sterling debt of £276 million or Rs. 368 crores outstanding at the end of 1936-37, £188.26 million had been retired up to the end of March 1942. Of this amount £39.26 million was purchased in the open market and £2.02 million under the Licence Scheme. The total nominal value of stocks repatriated amounted to £73.13 million under the first compulsory scheme and £73.85 million under the second scheme.

## PERMITS FOR EXPORT OF SUGAR BY RAIL FROM U. P. AND BIHAR

The stock of sugar under the control of producers in British India has been allotted to Provinces and States in relation to their previous consumption. In order to give effect to this allocation and to restrict speculative movements of sugar and waste of transport, the Sugar Controller for India has decided that, after August 1, 1942, no sugar shall be consigned by rail from stations in the U. P. and Bihar to destinations outside those Provinces except under a permit. These permits, which will be free of fee, will be issued in the case of consignments from stocks under the control of producers by the office of the Sugar Controller for India at Simla at such intervals as may be necessary to meet the requirements of the Provinces and States.

Permits required in respect of sugar other than that under the control of producers may be issued by the Chairman, Sugar Commission, U. P. and Bihar (in respect of sugar booked from railway stations in the U. P.) and by the Chief Controller of Prices and Supplies, Bihar (in respect of sugar booked from railway stations in Bihar) to whom applications should be made in the form appended to the Permit Rules published in the *Gazette of India* dated July 6, 1942.

### Sugar Production

On the basis of returns received under Sugar Production Rules, 1935, the Director, Imperial Institute of Sugar Technology, Cawnpore, reports the following figures for Sugar Production and Stocks in respect of Central Sugar Factories in India for

the fortnight ending with April 15, 1942, as also for the corresponding fortnight in the previous season.

	Current Fort-night	Corresponding Fort-night in the previous season.
	Mds.	Mds.
1. Opening Stock (at factories)	14,125,146	19,787,812
2. Production of Sugar (for the fortnight)	372,013	2,257,906
3. Despatches of Sugar (for the fortnight)	971,937	763,353
4. Closing stock (at factories)	13,525,222	21,282,365

Figures for the current fortnight relate to 124 factories representing 84 per cent of the total cane crushing capacity, while figures of the previous year relate to 125 factories representing 82 per cent of the total cane crushing capacity.

### SHELLAC PRICE CONTROL

It has been observed that since the recent decision of the Government of India to cancel their notification of March 12, 1942, fixing maximum prices for shellac, the shellac market in Calcutta has ruled consistently firm and traders are reported to be holding up supplies in anticipation of higher prices. At this time of the year,

with the new crop coming into the market, prices should normally have been easier, and it was on that expectation that the Government of India decided to cancel the maximum price.

It appears, however, that the absence of a maximum price has encouraged exaggerated expectations regarding the future trend of prices, and the Government of India have, therefore, decided to reimpose price control. A notification has accordingly been issued fixing the maximum price of shellac on the basis of Rs. 64 per maund for shellac T. N. at Calcutta.

## CIVIL SUPPLIES COMMISSIONER

The Government of India have decided to appoint an officer to make a special study of the all-India aspects of problems connected with the supply and prices of articles of common consumption for which as yet no special all-India Controller has been appointed. This officer will be known as the Civil Supplies Commissioner (Rice and Miscellaneous) and will be attached to the Commerce Department of the Government of India. He will be expected to maintain a close touch with the Provincial Governments and States, particularly through the medium of the recently constituted Regional Price and Supply Boards, and to keep the Government of India in the Commerce Department constantly informed of the position in the various areas in respect of the prices and supplies of food-grains and other articles of food (other than wheat and sugar) and miscellaneous commodities such as salt, kerosene, petrol, matches, etc.

Mr. B. G. Holdsworth, C.I.E., I.C.S., Establishment Officer to the Government of India, has been appointed Civil Supplies Commissioner (Rice and Miscellaneous) in addition to his duties as Establishment Officer.

## BAN ON USE OF KEROSENE AS MOTOR FUEL

The Government of India have prohibited the use of kerosene in any form as a motor fuel, through the Motor Vehicle (Kerosene Prohibition) Order, 1942, issued on May 29, 1942.

In a Press Note published in March last, the Government issued a warning on the use of kerosene as motor fuel, pointing out that such use would be contrary to the provisions of the Motor Spirit Rationing Order and the Excise regulations. There is evidence, however, that kerosene is being used on an increasing scale as motor fuel.

The use of kerosene as motor fuel, besides involving some damage to engines, is contrary to the interests of the public at large. Supplies of kerosene like petrol are limited by restricted tankerage and transport capacity and its indiscriminate use as motor fuel must curtail the supplies required for other essential and legitimate purposes, such as cooking, lighting, and heating. The result will be that the price of an essential fuel will rise.

The Government have, therefore, thought it necessary to prohibit the use of kerosene in any form as a motor fuel.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1942



# EVACUATION OF 500,000 INDIANS FROM BURMA

The full story of how 500,000 persons—nearly 50 per cent of the entire Indian population of Burma—were evacuated to India can now be told. The influx has not ceased. Evacuees are still coming in, though in small numbers, but this number may increase after the monsoon months.

The refugees have travelled by all kinds of routes, known and unknown. The rough figures are: by land routes into Bengal 200,000, into Assam 200,000; by sea 70,000 and by air 12,000. The evacuation by sea and air particularly has been carried out under trying conditions. When civil administration ceased, communications were interrupted and air attacks had become frequent, the Royal Indian Navy continued to evacuate people, assuming control where no other control remained.

The land route into Assam was cut in Burma when the Japanese advanced up the Chindwin river and virtually split Upper Burma in halves. As a result there was a rush of refugees fleeing from the advancing Japanese troops. Facilities were provided until the very last moment. Steps were also taken to look after refugees who had taken to the little-known paths. In record time 10 camps with camp staff, doctors, supplies, etc., were established along the track leading into the extreme north-east of Assam. Up till now roughly 18,000 refugees have made their way to safety along this route.

## R. A. F. Assistance

The value of the camps established on this very difficult route would have been very much less, but for the unremitting assistance offered by the Royal Air Force. Air reconnaissance revealed a few isolated spots where communication between ground and air could be established and supplies could be dropped. In country offering great natural difficulties to flying and in bad weather the R.A.F. pilots constantly risked their lives to drop much-needed supplies.

For other probable tracks rescue and reconnaissance parties were sent out and camps established. Villagers were offered rewards for assisting refugees. Many thousands of refugees came through and though casualties occurred, the Government of India are assured by Major-General Wood, who was their direct representative there, that none was due to starvation. Extreme exhaustion, coupled with such afflictions as malaria and dysentery, was the principal cause; there was never any serious lack of food.

## Refugee Organisation

The exploration of new paths through the Naga Tracts proved very successful. These paths also merge eventually in the military road, some distance inside the Indian frontier. With the bombing of Imphal, another route to Silchar proved invaluable. Eight camps had been kept ready on this route fully prepared with camp staff, doctors, food and medical stores. Altogether 35,000 persons went that way and casualties were negligible. When the monsoon set in, this route had to be closed, but a reduced staff is being maintained to help refugees who are still trickling through. For the duration of the monsoon the Assam Government, assisted by special officers, is in charge of the organisation. Preparations

are being made to build up a strong refugee organisation which can come into operation if there is another flow of evacuees after the monsoon.

Some idea of the size of the evacuation organisation may be obtained from the fact that 30 camps were established, some capable of accommodating 5,000 people at a time. Fifty camp commandants and assistant commandants, about 50 doctors with sanitary and medical staff and a strong team of special officers to deal with transport, dispersal, supply and other requirements were employed. Heavy responsibilities were placed on officers of the Assam Government. Many thousands of coolies, porters and carriers, etc. were employed. Much valuable assistance was received from non-official bodies. Congress medical units, the Marwari Relief Committee, the Ramkrishna Mission and many refugee reception committees played a vital part in the care and dispersal of refugees.

## Maintenance Of Refugees

The problem now is to settle these refugees in useful employment in India and to maintain them until they can find it. Temporary allowances are being advanced to the evacuees. Allegations have been made that there has been racial discrimination in this matter, but the truth is that allowances payable to European refugees from war areas had been fixed by His Majesty's Government long before any question of Indian refugees arose. With the influx of a large number of Indian, Anglo-Indian and Anglo-Burman refugees, a comprehensive review of the position was undertaken by the Government

of India and a scale of allowances relating to the previous economic status of the refugees without reference to race or nationality has been suggested to Provincial Governments who have been empowered to deal with all applications according to those scales which are applicable to all whether Indians, Anglo-Indians or Europeans, and the Government of India are confident that Indian States will also act similarly. An absolute maximum has been fixed and the scales will remain in force for six months. His Majesty's Government continue to be responsible for European refugees and the Government of Burma have accepted responsibility for British subjects other than Indians, domiciled in Burma.

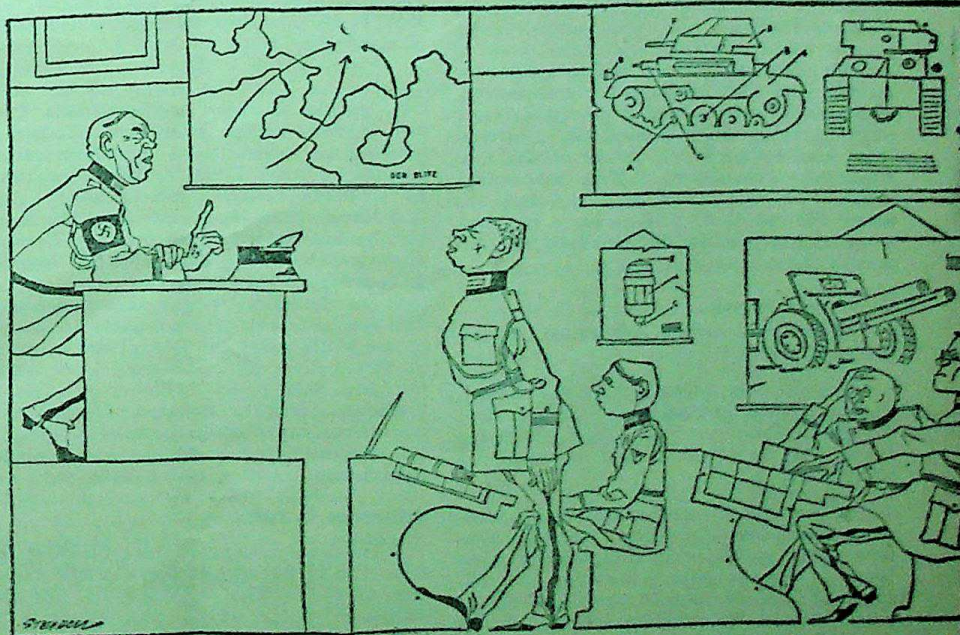
## Employment

The Government of India have asked all local authorities to put refugee applicants in touch with prospective employers. Refugees with technical qualifications, such as engineers, doctors, chemists, electricians, carpenters and other skilled trades, should experience little difficulty in finding employment. Clerks are in great demand, particularly for the Defence Services. Labour is needed for military camps, aerodrome and road construction and building programmes.

Educational concessions and facilities have been arranged for refugee students. It is expected that 335 students will appear for the Matriculation, 111 for the Intermediate and 44 for the B. A. examinations to be conducted shortly by the Burma Government in India.

## AID IN BURMA EVACUATION

The Government of India have conveyed to the Indian Tea Association their great appreciation of the constant and ready assistance which the Association provided at all stages of the large civil evacuation from Burma into Assam and to its individual officers for the very valuable work performed by them.



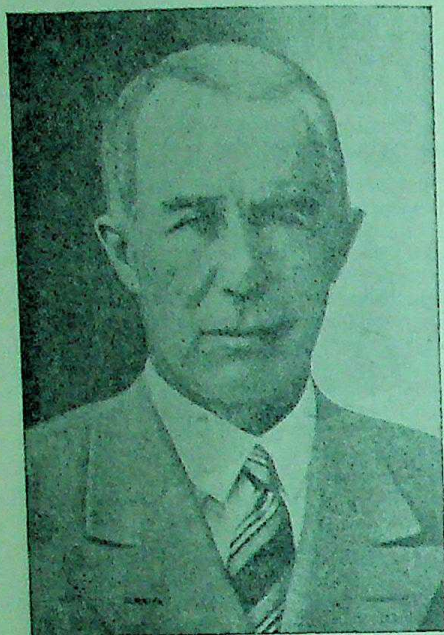
IN A NAZI OFFICER SCHOOL:

"What are the aims of the Reichwehr, Kadet von Ehrgeizig?"

"To fulfil all the claims sent over Deutschlandsender by Dr. Goebbels, Herr Oberst."



# FRONTIER GOVERNOR OPENS NEW PESHAWAR STATION OF A. I. R.



H. E. SIR GEORGE CUNNINGHAM, GOVERNOR OF THE NORTH-WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE

"I look forward to the day when from this radio station I shall announce to you that we and our Allies have been victorious and that tyranny has vanished from the earth," said H.E. Sir George Cunningham, Governor of the North-West Frontier Province, in a broadcast delivered on July 16, 1942, when he opened the new Peshawar Station of All India Radio. Both His Excellency and Mr. A. S. Bokhari, Controller of Broadcasting, who welcomed Sir George to the new Studio, spoke in Pushtu.

Mr. Bokhari pointed out that the new station has a 10-kilowatt transmitter, which is twice the power of the transmitters at Lahore, Lucknow, Dacca and Trichinopoly and 40 times the power of the first Peshawar transmitter. "With this equipment," he said, "we hope not only to serve the whole of this province but also to bring it into closer daily contact with the rest of the country."

## Governor's Speech

Here is a translation of H. E. the Governor's speech :

On the completion of this new Broadcasting Station in Peshawar, I congratulate All India Radio and all those who have taken part in planning and carrying out the scheme.

Seven years have passed since broadcasting in Peshawar first started. This new radio station which I am opening today is a great improvement on the old. It is of a more modern type and more powerful; its programme will be heard more clearly and at a greater distance. I, therefore, also congratulate all those in this Province who own radio sets and who take an interest in radio, as the new station is primarily for their benefit.

To me personally it is a great pleasure to be able to talk collectively to Pathans

all at one time. And it is fitting that from this capital of a Pathan Province we should be able to speak to all Pushtu-speaking areas. A large part of the programme will be in the Pushtu language, and it is our intention that the programme will be of a kind which Pathans desire. Some may desire news, some music, some talks on zemindari or other subjects. Some may listen to it in their own homes, others in bazars, or in hujras. At all times our intention is to give a programme which will be useful in improving the conditions of the whole Province.

## Used For Deception

It is to be regretted that in some countries the radio, which is intended to be for the pleasure, instruction and benefit of mankind, is used merely for evil purposes and for deceiving the people. Just consider how Germany ever since she started this war, and even before that when she was preparing for it, has used the radio for false propaganda. They have used it not only to deceive their own people, but also to stir up trouble in other countries, and thus weaken them so that Germany can then easily take possession of them. Indeed, in this war, along with other new weapons such as tanks, guns, and other machines, Germany has invented another weapon, the weapon of falsehood. Japan has now followed Germany's example. They issue news in their own language, in English, in Urdu—and all their news is manufactured in a factory of lies; as false as false coins issued from a counterfeiter's workshop.

## The Nazi Ban

It is possible that, just as I say that German and Japanese propaganda is false, our enemies say that British news is also false. Our enemies are always telling lies, and I do not propose to argue about this. But I mention two facts of which there is no doubt.

One is that the enemy forbid their own people to listen to broadcasts from any country except their own. Today, if a German listens to a broadcast from London or from Delhi, or from Peshawar, he is liable to the death penalty. And it is known that, in several cases, the death penalty has been inflicted. If any German or anyone in a country occupied by Germany is listening to my words now, I warn him that he is liable to the death penalty. The reason is that the Germans are afraid of the truth. But the British Government, in these three years of war, have never forbidden their people, whether in England, India, or elsewhere, to listen to any broadcasts from any part of the world. WHY? Because we know that truth is more powerful than falsehood.

## Difference In Purpose

The second thing is this: Consider the difference in the real purposes of our enemy and of the British in this war. All the difference in the world. Our object is to establish and preserve peace and to maintain the honour of religion and of women and children. The object of the Axis is to enslave the whole world, to abolish religion, to seize all private property. They have admitted this in their books, and have proved it by their many acts of *zulum* and cruelty.



MR. A. S. BOKHARI, CONTROLLER OF BROADCASTING

No wonder the Germans and Japanese are afraid of the truth and use newspapers, radio and all other means to produce false news for their own people and for foreign countries.

It can never be the will of God that such *zulum* should prevail in the world. We are all God's creatures. A shepherd will never entrust his sheep to a wolf. Nor will God leave His people to the mercy of a tyrant. His will is that oppressors should perish, and with His will Hitler, and the Japanese and their friends, are all doomed to destruction.

It is my firm belief that this will come to pass and that then once more we shall be able to devote all our time and energy to the real object of Government—the happiness, progress, and prosperity of the people. I look forward to the day when from this radio station I shall announce to you that we and our Allies have been victorious, and that tyranny has vanished from the earth.

## Controller's Speech

Mr. Bokhari said :

It is my proud privilege to welcome His Excellency Sir George Cunningham to our studios this evening, and the distinguished guests, who have accepted our invitation to join us at the inauguration of the new radio station at Peshawar. It is also a privilege that I should be speaking in a language with which my ears and my tongue have been familiar since the earliest days of my life. I believe I am right in saying that it would cause no surprise if on such an occasion the principal speakers were to express themselves in English. But encouraged by His Excellency the Governor himself, who has spoken to you in Pushtu, I felt that a departure from the usual and the conventional would not only be as welcome to our listeners as to us behind the microphone, but will also have a significance of its own.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1942





KATHAK BOY DANCERS, WHO BROADCAST  
FROM PESHAWAR STATION OF A.I.R.

The story of the Peshawar Station and of broadcasting in this Province has many features of interest which it is pleasant to recall.

Peshawar was the first station to broadcast to rural areas—a venture which was made possible by the enthusiasm and enterprise of the Government of this Province, at a time when many people were apathetic to broadcasting and even sceptical about its possibilities. During these seven years, this enthusiasm, I am happy to say, has not waned. It has rather been strengthened by the growing interest which the people of this Province have taken in it.

Time and again they have expressed the desire that the languages, the music, the talent and the culture of the people of this part of the world should have fuller opportunities of enriching the life of this Province by being encouraged, organised, developed, and disseminated through the radio. Enthusiasm begets enthusiasm, and so from today, we are in the happy position of transmitting to you from up-to-date studios and a 10-K. W. transmitter, which is twice the power of the transmitters at Lahore, Lucknow, Dacca and Trichinopoly and 40 times the power of the first Peshawar transmitter. With this equipment we hope not only to serve the whole of this province, but also to bring it into closer daily contact with the rest of the country.

#### "Listeners Are Our Co-Workers"

All India Radio is today broadcasting from 16 transmitters in 22 languages for about 80 hours a day. Its daily news service alone takes up over 500 minutes; but broadcasting is not simply a matter of pouring interminably into ether a mass of words and a stream of sounds, musical or otherwise. In the first place it calls for a constant, unceasing study of what the listeners are feeling and thinking, what they want to hear, and what the ideals are towards which they are groping; what their habits of living are—the hours at which they get up, go to work, eat, come home, go to bed, what amuses them, what provokes thought amongst them, what inspires them. All this is a vital part of broadcasting.

So you see, all our listeners, all those who are now listening to me, and others who have switched off in desperation or disgust—all of you are our co-workers in this service. And if your part of the job

sometimes seems to call for patience or criticism, we ask for both. The latter particularly and in a large measure. For when you criticise, when you find fault with our programmes and tell us where you think we have gone wrong and why, you are helping us to build up a programme service, the final test of which must always lie in the answer to the question: What part does it play in the everyday life of the people?

#### Unifying Power Of Radio

Secondly, broadcasting is nothing if it is not the bringing together, by link of sound, distant peoples and diverse cultures. It is the unifying power of the radio, the power to eliminate time and distance, the power to promote thought, understanding and sympathy which must constitute in the long run, its real contribution to civilisation's progress.

The radio, like any other device, can be exploited as an instrument of confusion, strife and destruction. But to use it so that truth shall be told in its bareness and falsehood exposed, so that knowledge should dawn and darkness be dispelled, so that it should not merely please but also stimulate and elevate—that is the only ideal worth pursuing. Let us, broadcasters and listeners alike, keep this ideal before us and hope that for its achievement, the new Peshawar Station, as one of the units of A.I.R. service, will play its full and legitimate part.



## MESSAGES FROM PERSONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED AREA

Arrangements have been made under the auspices of the Red Cross whereby an accurate transcription of all messages from persons in enemy occupied area, broadcast from enemy stations, is now forwarded immediately to their relatives so addressed, whenever they can be traced.

At the same time it is pointed out that the Japanese have shown themselves to be most unscrupulous in exploiting the sufferings of the relatives of war prisoners in their hands. It has also been clear that they are not above using the names of prisoners in their hands for furthering their own propaganda. This is abundantly proved by the fact that contrary to all international usage and despite repeated representations, they have declined to communicate to the Red Cross full lists of the prisoners in their hands.

A certain number of personal messages to both soldiers and civilians at present in Japanese-occupied territory are broadcast by All India Radio, but no undertaking can be given that any or every message can be put on the air in the limited time that can be spared for this service. It is essential that all messages sent to the Station Director of All India Radio, Delhi, for broadcasting should be as brief as possible, and of a simple domestic nature. They should contain no inquiries but only a direct greeting or statement, and in the case of replies to messages passed on to relatives by the Red Cross Commissioner they must be accompanied by the form which is supplied for this purpose to all recipients of messages from enemy territory.

## DEVELOPMENT OF INDIA'S MINERAL RESOURCES

The first project which the Utilisation Branch of the Geological Survey of India is undertaking for the development of India's mineral resources is a lead mine which had not been worked for over a century. The mine, which is in an Indian State, has been leased to the Government of India.

The intention is to prove that lead or zinc in this mine can be profitably worked. Operations will be started forthwith. If adequate supplies of ore are discovered, a pilot plant for smelting is expected to be constructed.

To supervise and conduct these operations, the services of men skilled in base metal mining are required. As a temporary measure, the Utilisation Branch has secured the services of Mr. W. P. Cowen, lately General Manager of Mawchi Mines in Burma. The remaining personnel will be recruited by advertising for persons possessing the necessary technical qualifications. In addition, a number of Indians will be appointed for training in base metal mining.

Other projects which the Utilisation Branch may take up with advantage are under consideration. Separate field staff will be appointed for each operation, though Mr. Cowen may supervise a number of them.

It is further understood that the question of forming an advisory committee composed of non-officials to advise Government in connection with the Utilisation Branch is under consideration.

#### AGE LIMIT FOR I.A.A.S. EXAMINATION

In modification of the existing age limits for the examination for recruitment to the Indian Audit and Accounts Service, the Imperial Customs Service, the Military Accounts Department, the Indian Railway Accounts Service and the Postal Superintendents (Class II) Service, the Government of India have decided that, with effect from the examination due to be held in 1943, candidates must be not less than 21 and not more than 24 years of age on August 1 of the year in which the examination is held, except that for departmental candidates the upper age limit will be fixed at 27 years.

#### PLYWOOD CONTAINERS

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 161]

Plywood buckets are coated on the inside with hard pitch which renders them waterproof. The round flat containers, specially designed to fit into larger containers made for dropping by parachute, are proofed to hold water both for drinking purposes and for machine-guns.

Plywood prototypes of metal boxes can be used for a variety of purposes, such as for tubes of anti-gas grease, hypodermic phials, powders and pills.

Plywood factories in India have already started the manufacture of plywood drums on the lines of the models made at the Forest Research Institute. Plywood drums and containers may be widely adopted not only as a war-time expedient, but also in times of peace. They are easy to make and they should compete favourably with the metal articles.



# PARACHUTE TROOPS USED IN DRIVE AGAINST THE HURS

The first service use of Indian parachute troops was made recently as part of the combined military and police drive against the Hurs in Sind.

A report just received from an Indian Army Observer states that the job of the parachute detachment, led by two British officers was to clean up a defined area, then to take up positions to prevent hostiles from breaking through a certain line.

The paratroops were delighted at being given an actual job and the chance to put into practice their specialist training.

"For the past five days I have been with the police and troops taking part in this drive and have been able to see the tremendous difficulties which they encountered," writes the Observer.

"The idea was to comb the Hurs' stronghold which lies somewhere in the northern edge of the Makhi Dhund area of the Sanghar Taluka in the Thar Parkar District."

## Jungle 'Honey Swamp'

Makhi Dhund—"Honey Swamp" and so named from its good honey production, occupies some 125 sq. miles between Jamrao Head and Paksari. It consists of forest, jungle and swamp. Most of the jungle is extremely dense.

Taking part in the round-up were a Punjab battalion, the parachute troops, Frontier Constabulary and police. Their task was to close in, box fashion, on an area roughly 30 by 12 miles detaining any people found within their "box."

On the first day while troops were getting into position Indian Air Force pilots flew over areas where the Hurs are believed to do a certain amount of military training. However, no Hurs were seen and no action was taken.

The real sweep started the next day and the first section of paratroops made their jump from giant transport planes about 7 a.m., the other parachutists dropping about 11-30 a.m. All were dropped in the Tagacho area and after clearing the ground allotted to them they took up positions on the east bank of the Raunto Sang to prevent hostiles from escaping to the east.

The Observer describes some of the difficulties that the police, troops and paratroops had to overcome in making their successful sweep.

## "Startling Contrasts"

Speaking of the difficulty overcome an officer said, "We found our camels tired more quickly than we had anticipated due to the big sand dunes which ran directly across our path. It meant that we were constantly going down into dips which not only made things irksome for the camels but made visibility practically nil."

Elsewhere conditions provided startling contrasts. Thus "in the jungle it was quite impossible to go dead straight for more than 50 yards at a time owing to the nature of the impenetrable undergrowth. We moved painfully slow."

## Chance On Crocodiles

Again, "One swamp we managed to cross resulted in us being submerged up to our armpits and we just waded and half swam across. Sleep was out of the question

owing to the mosquitoes. At first, when I reached a river, I confess I was rather scared to bathe to get relief from the bites owing to the crocodiles which had been seen."

But eventually things got so bad that the officer took a chance on the crocodiles.

The Observer reports that the Hurs used many novel tracks when attempting to hide or escape. Apart from hiding submerged in water and breathing through reeds, they used this method for crossing canals unseen. But for crossing a river in a hurry their method was to scare a buffalo into making a rapid crossing and to follow behind by holding on to his tail almost in surf-boarding style.

Communications were one problem solved by the use of wireless, aeroplanes and runners. Supplies and supply tracks were another.

Tracks over desert stretches—vast flat areas of sand and scrub then abrupt stretches of dense jungle—made transportation an intricate and dangerous business for the tracks would crumble suddenly beneath vehicles.

The Sappers and Miners did a great job, and a speedy one, in building up tracks or making them passable, but roadmaking is not much fun in a temperature of 112 degrees and up.

The Observer writes that the Hurs' method of supply is to send one man ahead to buy a rupee's worth of dates at any village they may be passing. They send in

a different man at each village. They pool the total amount of food so bought.

Again Hurs leaving the area of the present drive are reported to have done so without arms and it seems likely, according to the Observer, that they will eventually try to recover this equipment—such as it is.

He adds that since the operation began there has been a considerable change in the attitude of the ordinary, peacefully inclined inhabitants of Sind.

"An engineer who has worked in Sind for 13 years and is now aiding the military authorities, told me that many of the people who could help with information, but were afraid in the past because of Hur reprisals, are now eager to give any help they can.

An instance was the assembling of local guides for the police and troops. These men proved invaluable.

## CIVIC WELCOME TO R.I.N. PERSONNEL

[ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 150 ]

show, and in the evening were the guests at a dinner arranged by the Natal Indian Association.

During her voyage to the East, platoons from the *Sutlej* marched through the streets of another South African port and were afterwards inspected by the Mayor in the presence of many citizens gathered at the Town Hall. The South African Women's Auxiliary Service arranged motor bus drives and other facilities for the ship's company, who returned their hosts' hospitality on board the vessel.

In the United Kingdom teams from the *Sutlej* did well at hockey and football against various other ships' companies. The best display of skill by the *Sutlej*'s hockey enthusiasts was however given in a South African port, where they defeated by one goal a side described as the strongest in that part of the Union.



"YOU'LL HAVE TO WEAR THIS ONE, MUSSOLINI..."

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1942



## PERSONALITIES



GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR

### GENERAL MACARTHUR, ALLIED SUPREME COMMANDER IN S.-W. PACIFIC

On March 17, 1942, the man who had stopped the Japanese in the Philippines flew to Australia to drive them out of the South-West Pacific. At the order of his Commander-in-Chief, General Douglas MacArthur had come from Corregidor to take supreme command of the United Nations' forces. When he took over, General MacArthur said: "I shall do my best. I shall keep the soldier's faith."

General MacArthur will return to the Philippines. And those who know him say that when he does, there will be no stopping at Bataan.

#### Youngest Chief Of Staff

One of America's only two active full Generals, MacArthur at 61 is the inheritor of a military tradition that goes back halfway through United States history. His father, Arthur MacArthur, had been famous in the Civil War as the "Boy Colonel of the West." In later years he became a Lieutenant-General and Lieutenant-Governor of the Philippines, where young MacArthur spent his boyhood and where his mother died.

It was this tradition that made son Douglas MacArthur first in his class at

West Point in 1903. It brought him to France in 1917 at the head of the Rainbow Division, the youngest divisional commander in the American Expeditionary Force. It made him the youngest Chief of Staff the U.S. Army ever had. It sent him to serve three tours of duty in the Philippines. And it gave the United Nations the most stirring opposition to the Japanese invader that has come out of this war.

General MacArthur has always been a front-line General. He came out of World War I, twice wounded, once gassed, seven times cited for extraordinary valour, 37 times decorated with Allied honours. He now holds America's highest military decoration, the Congressional Medal of Honour.

#### "Philippines Can Be Defended"

It was from the second of his periods as Commander of the U.S. forces in the Philippines, 1928-1930, that General MacArthur was called home by President Hoover to be jumped to the top peacetime position in the whole American Army. As Chief of Staff, he remade the Army and laid the groundwork for a new, modern fighting A.E.F.

In 1935 he went back to his beloved Philippines to stay. To stay until this

year, and to create with President Manuel Quezon a barrier that would cost the Japanese many precious months, men and much equipment to cross—and thus cost her eventual victory. "The Philippines can be defended," he told an interviewer then, "and by God, they will be defended."

He clung to his purpose even against the coming fact of Philippine independence and the eventual departure of the U.S. Army. On December 31, 1937, he handed in his temporary resignation from the American service and became Field Marshal of the new Philippine Army.

For five years thereafter he forged, strengthened and toughened a magnificent little Filipino fighting force. In 1940 the spreading Japanese menace caused the U.S. Army to re-equip its Philippine Department, and in 1941 to recall General MacArthur to the American flag. On December 7, when enemy planes swooped over Manila, General MacArthur was ready. So were the Filipinos.

#### Repaid A Thousandfold

General MacArthur's long devotion to this cause has been repaid a thousandfold. One Japanese General—Homma—has already committed *hara-kiri* because of his failure to advance in Bataan. The belief is growing that the tide of victory has already begun to turn.

General MacArthur's dramatic arrival in Australia to take command of the counter-offensive gave point to this belief. Great convoys of American weapons and American fighting men preceded him. Today he is welding them together with other United Nations forces to carry the war to the Japanese—and to Japan.

General Douglas MacArthur will continue to "keep the soldier's faith."



### AIR CHIEF MARSHALS

Sir Richard Peirse, K.C.B., D.S.O., A.F.C., Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, the Air Forces in India, Air Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder, K.C.B., A.O.C.-in-C., Middle East, and Air Marshal Sir William Sholto Douglas, K.C.B., M.C., D.F.C., A.O.C.-in-C., Fighter Command, have been promoted to the rank of Air Chief Marshal, announces the *London Gazette* of July 3, 1942.

Sir Arthur Tedder, who is 48, was gazetted 2nd-Lieutenant in the Dorset Regiment in 1913. He was promoted Captain in 1916 and in the same year seconded to the Royal Flying Corps.

Air Chief Marshal Tedder served in France and the Middle East. After the war he was granted permanent commission as Squadron Leader in the Royal Air Force. His subsequent promotions were rapid, holding the post of Director of Training A.O.C., Far East Command, and a year before the outbreak of war he was appointed Director-General of Research and Development.



### MR. J. R. MASSON

The Minister of War Transport has received with regret the resignation of Sir Thomas Ainscough, C.B.E., from the post of Ministry of War Transport Representative for India and has appointed Mr. J. R. Masson to succeed him as from July 15, 1942.



## ON THE A.I.R.

**H. E. SIR JOHN ARTHUR HERBERT,  
GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, FROM  
DACCA: "NATIONAL WAR  
FRONT":—**

There is one way in which you can all help and that is to realise that if the Axis Powers were to be victorious, India would suffer the same ruthless repression that has been the fate of countries subjugated by them. The enemy will try to instil fear into the hearts of the peoples—fear that they are unprotected and distrust in those who are helping to defend them.

Let us, therefore, attack and attack again all who seek to undermine our solidarity. Root out the defeatist, put courage into the faint-hearted, expose the rumour-monger and pin the rumour to its source, drive out the sower of discord and shame the indolent into pulling their full weight.

Nothing worth having is easily obtained; no victory is easily gained. We cannot afford to fail or falter, weaken or tire, nor let the sudden shock of battle, nor the long-drawn trials of vigilance or exertion wear us down.

Our strongest weapon is the spirit and the fire within the people. The enemy must find himself fighting not an army alone, but an entire population which has banded itself into one indomitable unit of men and women, who will hold the front line of India's forward progress and will not rest until victory is won.

**Rebecca W. Loeffler: "Disputes between  
Capital and Labour":—**

It would be a mistake to think that deep-rooted disputes between labour and industry can be settled by a mere government order or even by a country's entry into war. The disputes between labour and capital are an educative process for both sides. As there comes the sharing of profits with labour and the consumer, the sharp edges of differences between labour, capital and consumer will in time be worn off.

Labour supports the war because it has made tremendous gains under the Roosevelt administration and because it believes that it will maintain for the present and at the end of the war advance its present position. Roosevelt has the labouring and middle classes behind him and there is very little danger in America of any sort of fascist revolution. In the last war labour was hampered by the huge undigested foreign element in its midst. This war finds both English and American labour in a much stronger position. There can be no return to the gospel of rugged individualism, to huge corporations controlling vast economic empires. That day, we hope, has ended.

Labour must concede to the industrialist the fact that a highly industrialized nation needs expert guidance and great qualities of mind and temper. On the other hand the industrialist must realize that the social and economic atmosphere is ever changing and that he must keep in close touch with the tempo of the times. The goal should be a state of industrial relations where contracts are negotiated on wages, hours and working conditions between management organized on an industry-wide basis and unions, strong unions, also organized on an industry-wide basis. As Justice Brandeis of the Supreme Court said "The end for which we strive is the attainment of rule by the people and that



**GITA SEN, WHO GAVE A SITAR  
RECITAL FROM A.I.R., DACCA**

involves industrial democracy as well as political democracy."

**The Rev. D. F. Hudson from Dacca: "China  
Fights on—The Great Westward Trek":—**

China has always put the scholar in the highest position in the community, just as India has put the priest, and on the eve of the war the Generalissimo told a gathering of students that nothing must hinder their work, and not even service in the army was more important. So in order to keep alive Chinese intellectual life the colleges and schools had to be moved away from the Japanese advance. Some of them went north-west, some went south, only to be forced to move again, and most of them went to the west. They had no real methods of transport, libraries, and laboratories with priceless equipment were piled on carts, or junks or ponies, and the students and staff had to walk. Some of them stopped too soon and were bombed out until they moved again. One University moved three times and at last found a quiet place in a group of Buddhist temples near the border of Burma, 2,000 miles away from its starting place. One of my Chinese student friends who saw much of this great migration wrote that since the Chinese student is so highly respected and looked upon as the leader of the community, the Japanese aggressors hate the Chinese students and have made deliberate attempts to destroy all colleges and universities. Before the end of 1939 fifty-four out of 114 universities or colleges had been totally or partially destroyed, largely because so many of the universities were so near the coast.

**Dr. M. T. Titus from Lucknow:  
"America's War Potential—Armament and  
Navy":—**

There is no doubt that the American potential is very high as regards the production of armament and naval equipment in ships of all kinds. There is no doubt of the abundance of America's financial resources; her manpower in the form of skilled and unskilled labour and a sufficiency of well-equipped industrial plants capable of turning out anything from Flying Fortresses to 70-ton tanks and anti-aircraft guns that

will shoot planes out of the sky five miles up. But America needs materials to make these things, and though her resources are vast, there are some things such as manganese and bauxite, nickel and chromium, that have to be imported. It is fortunate that South America, which is so near at hand, has such a large supply of much that is needed. So the merchant navy will be kept more than busy loading and unloading freighters at friendly foreign ports to supplement the materials available in America, in order that the giant factories and the armies of workmen may be kept busy at the nation's greatest task of the moment, the task of helping the United Nations to win the battle of freedom not only for themselves but for the World.

**Dr. K. P. Basu from Dacca: "All about  
Nutrition—Eating to Live":—**

It may be asked whether it is not possible to be guided by instinct and appetite in the selection of food. It should be realised that appetite in humans is much more complex than in animals and is constantly assailed by rationalizations based on false notions, prejudices and sales propaganda, thus rendering "instinct" in food selection practically without value. While instinct and dictates of appetite may adjust the intake of food to the heat requirements, they are no guide for body-building and body-protection purposes. In tackling the provision of a suitable diet, one should begin with the protective foods—milk, fresh fruits and vegetables and eggs which are rich in minerals and vitamins—then proceed to the body-building protein-rich foods and then leave the energy-bearing foods to the dictates of appetite. Of all the protective and body-building foods, milk is of outstanding importance since it contains most or all of the materials necessary for maintenance and growth. The milk production in India is inadequate and should be increased about four or five times if the entire population of India is to have the minimum requirement of milk.

**Dr. C. J. Pao, Consul-General for China in  
India, from Calcutta: "The Fifth Anniversary  
of China's War of Resistance":—**

As we today enter the sixth year of war, I hope my compatriots as well as peoples of the United Nations must not feel pessimistic if we have to face further military set-backs, and at the same time, should not over-joy on any success of a few battles. China's policy during the last five years has been "to face the changing situation with an unchanging solidarity" as stated by our Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. China has a better experience to offer the world today. Needless it is to say we all have sufficient spiritual weapons to win this war already, but the unscientific and illogical distribution of our natural resources and increased production has to be urgently readjusted.

To win this war, we should not only do the "possible" we must also endeavour to do the "impossible" and the United Nations, I am sure, will do it.

We are already near our eventual victory, but the situation is still very critical. Let us make a resolution today to put aside any consideration of partial difficulties and redouble, treble our determination and our efforts to accelerate the achievement of our final goal. The destiny of world freedom and civilization depends upon the success of the outcome of this war.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1942



## WEIGHTS, MEASURES—COINAGE—GLOSSARY—POINTS ABOUT INDIA

### WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Weights and measures in India vary not only from district to district but also for different commodities.

The principal units in all the scales of weights are the maund, seer and tola, and the standard weights for each of these are 82.28 lbs., 2.057 lbs. and 180 grains troy respectively.

The Indian tola is the same weight as the rupee, viz., 180 grains troy; the standard or railway seer is equal to 2.057 lbs. while the standard or railway maund of 40 seers is equivalent to 82 lbs. 4 oz. 9 drams. There are numerous local variations.

### COINAGE—RUPEE IN DOLLARS AND POUNDS

Re. 1 is approximately 1 sh. 6d. or 30.05 cents.  
Rs. 100 are approximately £7/9/6 or \$30.05.  
Rs. 1,000 are approximately £74/14/10 or \$300.53.  
Rs. 1,00,000 (a lakh) are approximately £7,473/19/2 or \$30,053.  
Rs. 1,00,00,000 (a crore) are approximately £747,395/16/8 or \$3,005,259.  
100,000 is one lakh (1,00,000)  
10,00,000 is one crore (1,00,00,000)

#### COINAGE

3 pies are 1 pice.  
4 pice are 1 anna.  
16 annas are 1 rupee.

### GLOSSARY OF SOME COMMON INDIAN TERMS

Abkari	Excise.
Ahimsa	Non-violence.
Akhbar	Newspaper.
Amir (or Emir)	Nobleman; Chief.
Anjuman	Association; gathering.
Badmash	A bad character; a ruffian.
Bajra (or Bajri)	Millet.
Bahadur	Brave; Heroic; a title.
Bustee	Slum; collection of huts.
Begum	A lady of high family; a Princess.
Bhang	Hemp leaf (used as an intoxicant).
Bharat	India.
Bigha	A measure of land (about a third of an acre).
Bund	Embankment.
Chapati	Unleavened bread made in thin flat cakes.
Chaprassi	Orderly; bearer.
Charka (or Charkha)	A spinning wheel.
Charpoy	A bedstead with a mattress made of woven rope or tape.
Chowkidar	A village policeman.
Dak	Post; mail.
Dal	Pulses.
Durbar	A ceremonial court; a levee.
Durwan	A door-keeper; a commissioner.
Dewan	Prime Minister to an Indian Chief; a title.
Fakir; Sadhu	Mendicant: fakir generally to Muslims.
Ghee	Clarified butter.
Godown	Store-room; warehouse.
Goonda	A ruffian; a bad character.
Gur	Crude sugar.
Guru	A Hindu religious preceptor.
Grantha Saheb	Sikhs' Bible or Book of Prophets.
Haj	A pilgrimage by a Muslim to Mecca. (Hence 'Haji,' one who has performed the Haj.)
Hariljan	Untouchables (brought into current use by Mr. Gandhi; literal meaning "people of God").
Hundi	A bill of exchange; a draft.
Imam	The leader in Muslim prayer.
Jagir	Land given by Government as reward. (Hence 'Jagirdar,' holder of a jagir).
Jamadar	Indian officer in the army or police (lowest rank).
Jirga (or Jirgah)	A council of tribal elders (especially of the Frontier clans or tribes).
Jowar	Millet (the large species).
Jogi (Yogi)	A Hindu ascetic.
Kutchra	Raw; green; unripe; inefficient; irregular; unfinished.
Khadl (or Khaddar)	Cloth made on a handloom from hand-spun yarn.
Khan	A Pathan chief or nobleman; a Pathan title.
Khalsa	Lit. 'pure,' 'society of the pure,' founded by Guru Govind Singh, is now equivalent to the Sikh community.
Khas	Personal; private; reserved; state-owned.
Kisan	An agriculturist; a farmer.

### POINTS ABOUT INDIA

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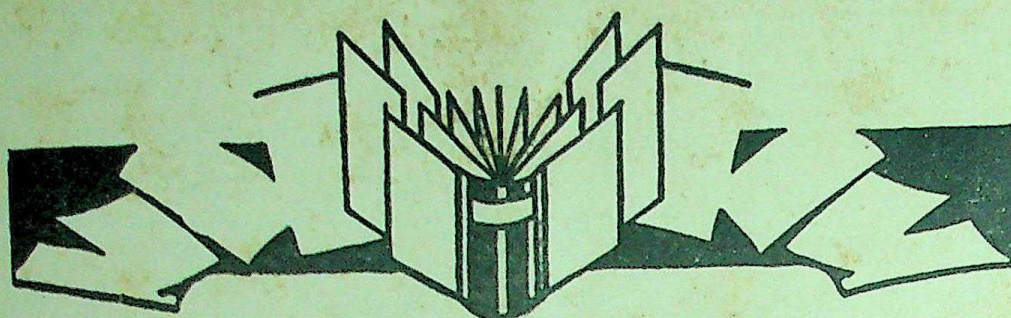
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# INDIAN INFORMATION



No. 180, September 1,  
Issued fortnightly by the  
Public Information Officer,  
Government of India.

● CIVIL DEFENCE IN  
● C-0. In the Department of Public Relations



## They Said

"Your message of goodwill conveyed to me on July 4 on behalf of yourself, the Princes and peoples of India has heartened me greatly and is to me and my fellow-countrymen symbolic of the understanding and unity of spirit which so happily exists among our several lands. Those of my countrymen who through service in India are assisting in the mutual tasks confronting Great Britain, India and the United States will, I know, have responded warmly to the welcome which you have accorded them. I am confident with you that through the increasing co-ordination of the effort of all the United Nations each day advances us towards the accomplishment of our common objective to destroy those forces which would deny all freedom in the world."—*President Roosevelt in his reply to H. E. the Viceroy's message on American Independence Day.*



"It can never be the will of God that such *zulum* (tyranny) should prevail in the world. We are all God's creatures. A shepherd will never entrust his sheep to a wolf. Nor will God leave His people to the mercy of a tyrant. His will is that oppressors should perish, and with His will Hitler, and the Japanese and their friends, are all doomed to destruction. It is my firm belief that this will come to pass and that then once more we shall be able to devote all our time and energy to the real object of Government—the happiness, progress, and prosperity of the people. I look forward to the day when from this radio station I shall announce to you that we and our Allies have been victorious, and that tyranny has vanished from the earth."—*H. E. Sir George Cunningham, Governor of North-West Frontier Province, in a broadcast from Peshawar, July 16.*



"The all important issue is winning the war decisively as soon as possible. Into that we must put our utmost effort every day until victory is won. This bitter armed attack on human freedom has aroused mankind to new heights of courage, determination and moral strength. It has evoked a spirit of work, sacrifice and co-operative effort. With that strength of spirit we shall win."—*Mr. Cordell Hull in a broadcast from Washington, July 23.*





Vol. II, No. 100

INDIAN INFORMATION September 1, 1942

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INDIAN  
INFORMATION  
IS A  
REFERENCE  
RECORD

**AIMS:**—To provide a condensed record of the main peace and war activities of the Government of India, together with some outstanding facts about the British Government's war activities. INDIAN INFORMATION does not compete with the Press; it exists for their convenience and is not intended for general circulation among the public.

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Any Item May Be Reproduced Without Acknowledgment.

ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY BY J. NATARAJAN, PRINCIPAL INFORMATION OFFICER,  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, ASSOCIATE EDITOR, CECILIE LESLIE.

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## • FACTS AND FIGURES •

The American Volunteer Group was formed in August, 1941, by order of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. After a period of training in Burma, the A.V.G. started combat activities in China and south-eastern Asia towards the close of 1941. The A.V.G. have never numbered more than 250, but each man, pilot or ground personnel, is a trained specialist. Because of the fine work they have done during the last few months, they have established a reputation as "Flying Tigers."

The estimated production of gold in India in 1941 amounted to 285,162 fine ounces valued at Rs. 3,27,15,301 as compared with 289,324 fine ounces valued at Rs. 3,24,61,066 in 1940. The total production during the decade ended 1941 was 3,185,000 ounces or 1.1 per cent of the total world (excluding U.S.S.R.) production of 293,995,000 ounces during the same period. The production of silver for the nine months ended September 1941 amounted to 18,447 ounces valued at Rs. 28,065.

Substitute containers to take the place of the usual metal drums and cans used for oils, paints, greases, dry goods and other stores have been evolved by the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun.

The first project which the Utilisation Branch of the Geological Survey of India is undertaking for the development of India's mineral resources is a lead mine which had not been worked for over a century. The mine, which is in an Indian State, has been leased to the Government of India.

E. W. Beggs, a Westinghouse lighting engineer, has discovered a new source of ultra-violet or black light many times more effective in illuminating fluorescent materials than anything previously known. Maps may be read in a blackout, and airplane dials glow without glare through its use.

In the first 30 months of the war, British Empire shipyards have delivered more than 500 new fighting ships.

Chungking will house China's finest engineering colleges as National Chiaotung University and Peiyang Engineering College plan to re-open in the suburbs of the capital city. Established 47 years ago, the National Peiyang Engineering College is the oldest of its kind in China. Following its trek from Tientsin to Shensi in 1937, it joined the National Peiping University and the National Peiping Normal College to establish the National Northwest Associated University, later known as the National Northwest University.

During July, this year, 71 merchant ships were placed in the service of the United Nations by American shipyards, representing an addition of 790,000 tons to the Merchant Fleet of the Allies. During the three months, May to July, American yards completed 195 vessels totalling 2,153,900 tons. In the first three months of this year (January to March) only 70 ships were delivered. In the second quarter of 1942 (April to June) deliveries totalled 160.

The total number of evacuees carried by air from Burma from January 1, 1942, to May 9, 1942 was 11,210. In the operations from Rangoon, Lashio, Magwe and Shwebo to Chittagong and Calcutta 5,116 evacuees were carried and the number carried from Myitkyina (North Burma) into Assam was 6,094. The former included 1,830 Indians and 3,060 Europeans and Anglo-Indians, and the latter, 2,195 Indians, 291 Europeans, 2,516 Anglo-Indians and 408 Anglo-Burmans.

Without using a single drop of gasoline, commodities can now be transported between Hengyang in southern Hunan and Kwangyuan in northern Szechwan by steamships, junks, carts, pack animals, and carrying coolies for 2,330 kilometers over rivers and highways. Directing this important link in Chinese inland transportation is the newly established Szechwan-Hunan-Shensi Through Stage Transportation Administration of the Ministry of Communications.

The number of industrial disputes that occurred in British India during the quarter ending December 31, 1941, was 106, resulting in the loss of 734,838 working days. The number of workers involved was 102,825, which is about 3.7 per cent of the total number of workers employed in industries in India.

Teak planting has been going on in India for nearly a century. At present 6,000 acres are planted with teak every year and the total area of teak plantations in India and Burma is over 200,000 acres.

New production records of several munitions items were registered by India's ordnance factories during April and May. These included 2-pounder and 18-pounder shots, tracers, mortar bombs, small arms ammunition, grenades, rifles and bayonets. 178 tons of high-grade tool steel were also manufactured during April and production of fuzes reached a new record figure.

British Women's Land Army now totals 21,000. Their numbers are increasing every day, and already there are 5,000 more of them at work than during the last war.

In connection with India's munitions programme, a new scheme costing Rs. 14 lakhs has been sanctioned for the installation of an additional toluene plant, which will still further step up toluene production in India. The cost will be met by His Majesty's Government.

Deposits of sodium sulphate have been discovered in Rajputana. Both sodium sulphate and sulphide are at present imported from the United Kingdom and it is hoped that the exploitation of this new source will contribute to self-sufficiency in this chemical which is used both for industrial and defence purposes.

There are now 51 centres in Indian States which have been approved for training technicians under the Government of India's Technical Training Scheme.

Four-engined stratosphere planes able to carry 57 soldiers or 32,000 lbs. of cargo over a distance of 4,000 miles, flying at an altitude of 30,000 feet, are now coming off the assembly lines of aircraft factories in the United States.

Deliveries of timber during May were more than 2½ times the average rate of the previous year 1941-42.

The duties of an Air Raid Warden are, in some respects, allied to those of the police. He assists in enforcing the rules for concealment of light, recruits volunteers for Civil Defence and Air Raid Precautions Services and gives general assistance and guidance to members of the public before, during, and after air raids. But undoubtedly the most essential part of his duty is to educate the inhabitants of his sector in air raid precautions.

The American petroleum industry turned out almost 200,000 more barrels of oil daily in August than it did in July. With improved overland transportation facilities, production will be increased to more than 4,000,000 barrels daily.





PARADE OF DELHI'S CIVIL DEFENCE SERVICES, WHICH WAS INSPECTED RECENTLY BY H. R. H. THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER

## CIVIL DEFENCE NEEDS YOU

**O**ne main object of air attacks is to dislocate, damage and, if possible, destroy the enemy's sources of war production, such as factories, mills, storage depots, and oil storage installations. Conversely, to prevent such interruption to its own war production is a vital element in a country's defences. In England, A.R.P. for factories has been so successful that the loss of production due to air raids has been very small in proportion to the total output.

### Shelters In Factories

In India, A.R.P. arrangements for the principal factories and similar establishments are a direct responsibility of the Labour Department of the Central Government and are administered by the Chief Adviser, Factory A.R.P., Department of Labour,

through a specially trained staff, and through the Provincial or State Governments working under the general supervision and direction of the Central Government.

The Chief Adviser, Factory A.R.P., has wide powers under the Defence of India Rules to order measures which may be necessary to secure the safety of labour and continuity of production, and to ensure that, if damage to plant does occur, full output is resumed at the earliest possible moment. Workers—skilled or unskilled—have to be protected against death or injury. Each factory is required to provide a full complement of shelters and to organize, train and equip efficient A.R.P. and fire prevention services.

In conjunction with the Labour Welfare Adviser, Mr. R. S. Nimbkar, all possible steps are also being taken to ensure proper feeding and welfare arrangements in the event of a breakdown of normal supplies or communications.

### Sources Of Vital Power

In addition, vital buildings, plant, machinery and tools are being protected against damage from bomb splinters, blast, debris, fire or earth shock. Special attention is given to sources of vital power, such as electrical sub-stations, transformers and mains. In particular, all factories are being instructed to provide large quantities of water in tanks for fire-fighting purposes.

The Chief Adviser, Mr. Gordon Peace, F.I.C., F.R.A.S., is in close touch with the latest developments in protective methods





**His Royal Highness** The Duke of Gloucester going round the Brabourne stadium in Bombay during the city's civil defence services rally



**His Royal Highness** takes the salute. Beside him is the Governor of Bombay



**H. R. H. THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER ALSO INSPECTED BOMBAY'S NURSING DIVISION**

devised in the United Kingdom, and, in furtherance of this policy, Brigadier P. W. L. Broke-Smith, C.I.E., D.S.O., O.B.E., who as Chief Inspector, Passive Air Defence, Ministry of Supply, has been dealing with similar problems affecting vital factories in England since the outbreak of war, flew to India five months ago to contribute from his special experience. The staff of the Chief Adviser, Factory A.R.P., has been strengthened by the appointment of five expert Technical Officers and Inspectors from the Ministry of Supply in England, all of whom have had actual experience of such work under Blitz conditions.

Three Indian officers, Messrs. Tembe, Kalapesi and Vahidy, have already been sent to England for a short course of training in A.R.P. in factories under the Ministry of Supply, and the training of two more will shortly be arranged. On return, they will be taken into the organisation.

Recent tours of inspection to factories in the threatened areas in India show that substantial progress has been made with protective measures generally and that, in particular, the programme for providing shelters and other protection for workers is approaching completion.

## PROTECTIVE WALLS

It is common today to see walls built outside and within factories and other buildings to limit damage or injury due to bomb explosion; their value has been amply demonstrated by actual results of air raids.

The main function of these protective walls is to intercept bomb splinters and other objects violently propelled by an explosion. Splinters and missiles are much more likely to cause injuries to personnel and damage to plant etc. than blast alone and the popular term "Blast Wall" is, therefore, really a misnomer.

In order to stop splinters from a 500 lb. bomb (exploding not nearer than 50 feet), it is necessary to make the wall at least 13½" thick in sound brickwork or masonry. The stability of the wall, however, cannot be disregarded. There is grave danger of a tall, unsupported wall collapsing or breaking up into heavy missiles and thereby becoming a source of danger in itself. Protective walls must, therefore, be designed so that these tendencies are resisted by buttresses or other means. The siting of the walls also calls for careful planning; a wall may be wrongly sited in relation to the objects which it is desired to protect.

Typical designs for walls of various types and heights have been incorporated in A. R. P. Handbook No. 9 (India)—"Protective Walls"—issued by the Civil Defence Department, Government of India.

The Handbook is priced 3 annas.

## GLASS SPLINTERS

Precautions against glass splinters are dealt with in Part I (Refuge Room) of A.R.P. Handbook No. 6 (India)—Domestic Air Raid Shelters—which strongly recommends that all glass be removed from the refuge room.

This advice applies equally to glass in shop windows and other large frontages on roadways. In an air raid these would constitute a menace to the pedestrian and.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 209]

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1940



## DEFENCE

## H.M.I.S. "SUTLEJ" BEATS OFF JAPANESE AIR ATTACKS

By removing ammunition from a transport that had been set on fire in a heavy dive-bombing attack Royal Indian Navy personnel added another page to the record of good work performed by their service in Far Eastern waters.

The story begins in January when H.M.I.S. *Sutlej*, one of our latest sloops, was transferred from duties in the Gulf of Suez to the work of escorting troop and store ships to Singapore.

In the Banka Strait an exciting experience befell one of the last north-bound convoys of which the *Sutlej* formed part of the escort. The ships were attacked by 27 Japanese bombers. It was a hot action, in which the Japanese met with effective fire from the escorting vessels. After the second attack the enemy jettisoned their bombs and, breaking formation, turned tail. The convoy proceeded unscathed.

## Five Enemy Bombers Down

Two hours after the *Sutlej* had brought the first portion of this convoy safely into Singapore harbour, the second portion, whilst still approaching under escort, was heavily dive-bombed by a large force of enemy aircraft. In spite of the escort's concentrated fire, a large transport, formerly

a well-known passenger vessel, was set on fire. The *Sutlej*, which was protecting the transports in the anchorage, helped to prevent the dive-bombers from pressing home their attacks on the incoming ships. At the same time by her accurate fire she checkmated repeated attempts to dive-bomb the crowded anchorage. As a result of this engagement the enemy lost five bombers.

When the *Sutlej* went to the help of the stricken transport she found many survivors in the sea clinging to upturned boats, lifebuoys and rafts. She promptly set about rescue work in conjunction with units of the Royal Australian Navy.

Meanwhile a party from the *Sutlej* clambered into the burning ship to ensure that no one was left on board and to remove the depth charges and ammunition. Explosions were continually occurring; the main mast swayed and fell over the stern with a sickening crash. With every gust of wind the smoke and flames crept further aft, at times enveloping the whole after-part of the ship. In places the decks became red hot, but the men of the Royal Indian Navy stuck to their task. The job done, all returned safely to their ship. The troops in the anchored transports gave the *Sutlej* a wholehearted welcome when they saw her back in harbour.

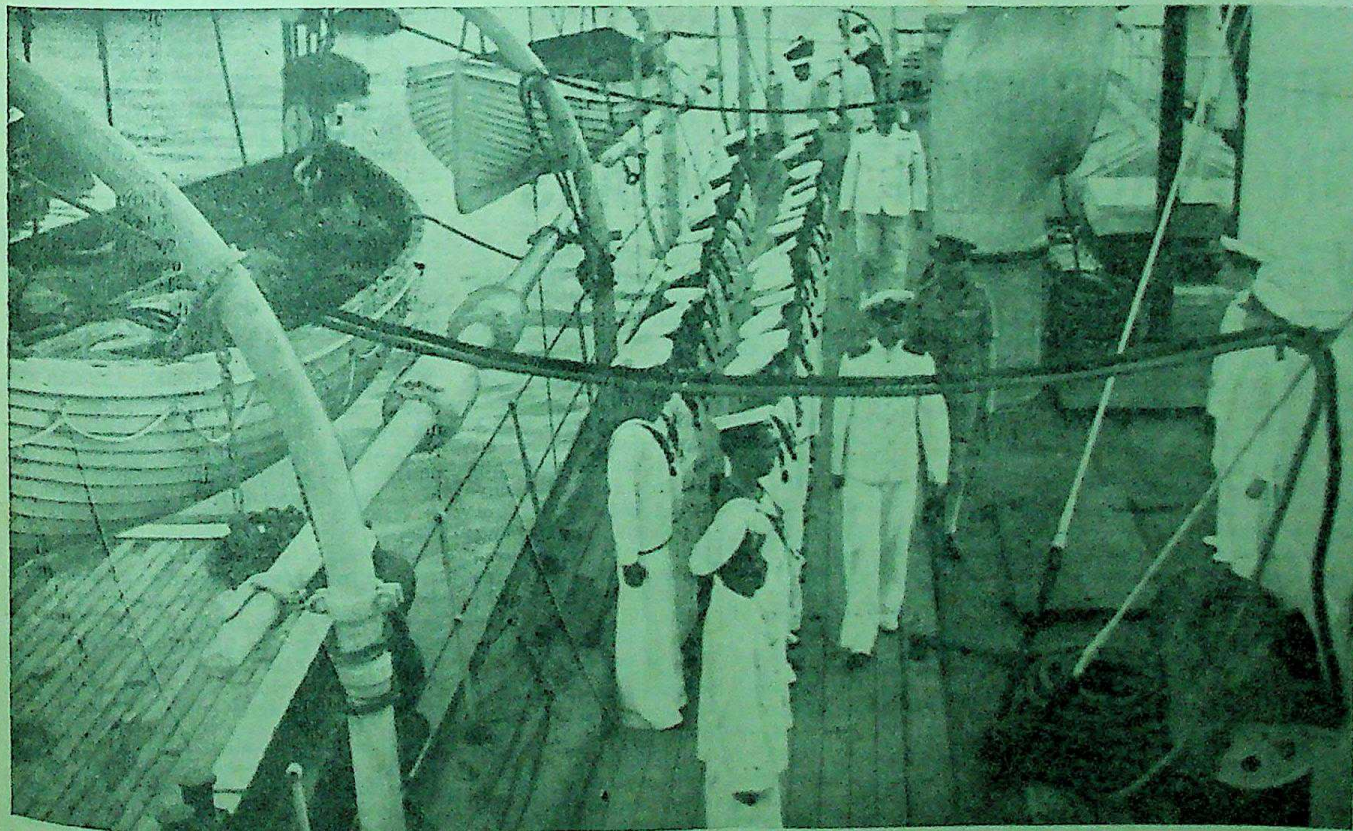
The *Sutlej* was next ordered to proceed to Batavia on escort duty. At midnight, therefore, she slipped out of harbour with two other escort vessels and an important convoy. On the way the ships were attacked by ten Japanese bombers, but the escort gave them such a hot reception that they fled without dropping a single bomb and left one of their number a mass of wreckage in the sea.

The *Sutlej* shepherded yet another convoy to safety, and subsequently returned to the Bay of Bengal for patrol duty on the Burma coast, where she helped in the evacuation of many thousands of Indian refugees.

## BURMA MEDICAL RESERVE OFFICERS

Officers of the Army in Burma Reserve of Officers (Medical) are liable to be called up for Army service in India, as they have signed a declaration to the effect that they are willing to serve in any part of Burma or in any place in which any portion of His Majesty's Burma Forces may be serving. Their services continue to be at the disposal of the Government of Burma, acting through the Headquarters, Burma Army, Simla, for the duration of the war or until released by that Government.

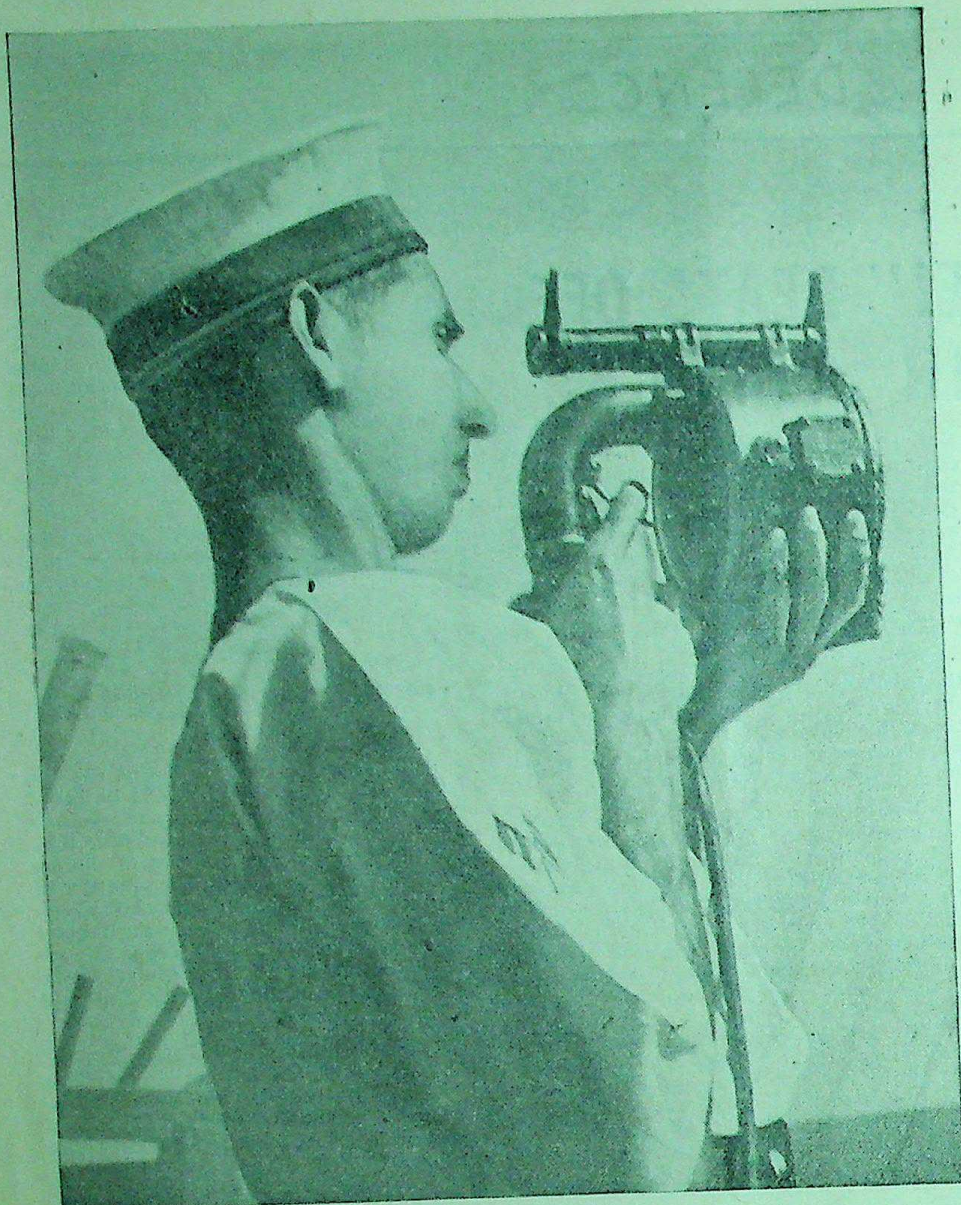
The Government of Burma will, however, consider the application of any officer to serve with the Government of India. It is not intended that overseas pay should be granted to these officers for their service in India.



H. R. H. THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER INSPECTING A SHIP OF THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY DURING HIS RECENT TOUR OF INDIA



## DEFENCE



THIS R.I.N. SIGNALLER USES AN ALDIS LAMP FOR COMMUNICATION BETWEEN SHIPS

## HOW BURMA NAVY HELPED IN EVACUATION OF INDIANS

When the Japanese occupied the Irrawaddy delta, the Royal Indian Navy and the Burma Navy took on the important task of watching and protecting the Arakan coast. Burma's naval forces thus entered upon a job that might have taxed the powers of a much larger organisation. They were required to patrol a long coastline with a network of mangrove-bordered inlets and jungle-fringed creeks that afforded the enemy abundant opportunities for attacking.

Thus states an eye-witness describing the work done by some of the Burma Navy's officers and men in the Burma Campaign in which the Royal Indian Navy and the Burma Navy came to the help of large numbers of Indian refugees. A large proportion of the Burma Navy's officers and men are now serving in conjunction with the R.I.N.

But in addition to the maintenance of this patrol of a long coastline it was found that other work had to be done. Thousands of Indian refugees were crowding into the coastal towns and villages, seeking the

means of going to India, and in many of these places the civil administration was faced with great difficulties. Urgent problems called for prompt and resolute handling.

### Evacuation Of Refugees

Take the case of a certain port, thronged with refugees from the interior. Towards the end of March, a young officer of the Burma Navy was detailed to proceed to this place to watch the coast and evacuate refugees. He arrived by launch, accompanied by a Chittagong crew. His first duty was to help the police in maintaining order. Then a committee of elders was established to see that normal activity was resumed in the town. Shops were reopened; the inhabitants of surrounding villages were induced to bring their produce to the bazar; and scavenging was organised.

The greatest problem was how safely to evacuate the thousands of refugees. The work of distributing food in itself occupied several hours each day.

A man who had robbed an Indian woman of her ear-rings was brought up for trial. He received punishment in public. The effect on him and other evil-doers was

excellent. On another occasion it was reported that refugees crossing from the mainland were sometimes robbed and marooned on uninhabited islands by the boatmen they employed. The Naval Officer set out in his launch to investigate, and came upon a gang of dacoits who had robbed a band of refugees and were about to put them upon an island. After a sharp struggle it was the dacoits themselves who were stranded.

The officer then found himself reinforced in an unusual manner. Men cut off from the Army in Burma—Indians, Burmans and British—resolutely made their way through enemy-occupied territory. A number were suffering from the privations they had endured, but most of them remained fit to make a useful addition to the police and to supply the launch with a combatant crew.

### Evacuation By Sea

From time to time steamers called at the port to take off refugees. Women and children were sent away first, but eventually all the others were evacuated. In less than a month many thousands had been embarked for India. By that time the Japanese had drawn nearer, and as evacuation had been completed, there was no object in retaining our precarious hold on the town. Consequently demolitions were carried out, and the officer and his small party returned to Headquarters.

The main work of evacuation by sea was carried out from another port, and it is no exaggeration to say that thousands of Indians owe to the Burma Navy their safe return to India. The place was attacked time and again by Japanese aircraft, which frequently singled out the Naval vessels for attack; but the resolution displayed by the ships' machine-gunners resulted in the failure of these attempts, which did not stop the work of repatriating the Indians.

### Demolitions

Events in Central Burma now led to the isolation of our small force based on this town. Obviously it was only a matter of time before the enemy advanced up the coast. Moving along shallow creeks, a strong force of Japanese, assisted by the local *bad hats* whom they supplied with arms and ammunitions, eventually arrived at a place not far away. It was impossible to patrol every tortuous waterway, but the Burma Navy's craft kept an incessant watch.

A Naval officer, patrolling a creek well inland, was told that the enemy had passed northwards along a little-used waterway. Navigating with caution, for he was in no position to engage a large force, he took his launch upstream and located the enemy at a village.

Later, a more strongly armed and manned launch was sent to test the enemy's strength. Some miles from the village it was heavily engaged by trench mortars, and machine-guns. The mortars outranged every weapon in the launch, which did not, however, withdraw until it became evident that the fight could not be continued.

The force available was not strong enough to defend the town, and orders were finally given for its withdrawal. Demolitions were carried out, ensuring that the resources of the port would be denied to the Japanese.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1942





PILOTS OF THE MADRAS SPITFIRE SQUADRON IN OPERATION WITH THE FIGHTER COMMAND OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

## MADRAS SQUADRON'S WORK

**H**alifax four-engined bombers of the R.A.F. with the words "Madras Presidency" painted on the fuselage have taken part in almost every one of the Bomber Command's attacks this year on German ports, industrial centres and shipping. They were also in the thousand-bomber raids on Cologne, the Ruhr and Bremen.

The Madras Squadron was visited by Their Majesties the King and Queen, and later by the Prime Minister. Their Majesties and the Prime Minister were introduced to the crews, and heard of the magnificent work that the Squadron had done since its first operation in March, 1941. The squadron was the first in the Bomber Command to be equipped with Halifax aircraft.

### Ice And Snow

The year opened with ice and snow. On January 6 there was to be an early morning attack on Brest. Between 3 and 4 a.m. the ground crews found that the wings and fuselages of the aircraft were covered with ice and frozen snow. They got to work clearing it away so that the Halifaxes could take off without delay.

On February 12, when news was received that the *Scharnhorst* and the *Gneisenau* with the *Prinz Eugen* and an escort of destroyers were escaping through the Channel, the Squadron was immediately called into action. The weather was once again on the enemy's side; he had chosen his day well. Clouds were very low; there was heavy rain and mist and some snow showers. It seemed as if the bombers would be unable to find the ships in such conditions.

### A Dramatic Signal

Then from one of the Madras Squadron aircraft came this dramatic signal: "Engaging warships." The Captain, a young squadron leader had almost given up hope of getting a glimpse of the ships when he saw anti-aircraft shells bursting through the clouds. He steered towards the shell-fire, then dived under the cloud bank until he was only 400 feet from the sea, and there he saw the ships.

He was upon them before his bomb aimer had a chance to direct his bombs, and a few seconds later the clouds closed over again. In that brief clearing he

noticed that one of the cruisers had a considerable list to port. Defying intense anti-aircraft fire, he searched again for a break in the cloud, but without success.

Another time, during an attack on Wilhelmshaven, the temperature was 35 degrees Centigrade below zero. "There was ice everywhere and I knocked off icicles as they formed on my chin," said the rear gunner. "My eyebrows were frosted over."

His oxygen mask froze when they were flying at great height and blocked supply. He became unconscious for about ten minutes. The Captain sent the flight engineer to help him, but he collapsed on his way to the rear turret and had to be looked after himself.

### Attack On Renault Works

It was only by diving 7,000 feet that the Captain was able to reach a more comfortable temperature. He then continued on his course and bombed the docks.

During an attack on the Renault Works at Billancourt near Paris in March the crews got some of their most spectacular results. They saw their bombs strike the





Despite bad weather conditions, the Royal Air Force continues to maintain without respite its bombing of Japanese targets in Burma. Here are two smiling airmen who have just returned from a reconnaissance flight

gasometer while others exploded among the great area of factory buildings. The girders stood out black over a sea of flame, and tremendous columns of smoke rose from the fires.

Of the fires at Cologne during the first thousand-bomber attack at the end of May the navigator said: "There was a mass of flame as far as it was possible to see, and over the northern part of the city there hung a thick pall of black smoke like a thunder cloud. And next to the fires the most impressive thing was seeing all the other aircraft going in and coming out—every size and kind—so that the sky was busy as a City street on Saturday night."

Then followed the thousand-bomber attacks on the Ruhr and Bremen, and other targets attacked this year by the Madras Squadron have included St. Nazaire, Lorient, Hamburg, Osnabruck, Stuttgart, Warnemunde, Mannheim and Emden, and the German naval base at Trondheim.

Since its formation the Madras Squadron has had four different commanding officers. The present one, Wing Commander J. H. Marks, D.S.O., D.F.C., is still in his twenties. This tall and quietly spoken young man has himself been on more than 60 bombing attacks.

At the end of last year the Squadron had two officers with the D.S.O. and seven with the D.F.C. There were also seven sergeants with the D.F.M. Since then two D.F.C.s and two D.F.M.s have been added to the list.

## ROYAL AIR FORCE BOMBS JAP TARGETS IN BURMA

**B**attling day by day through the monsoon, the Royal Air Force continues, despite the hazards of the weather, to maintain without respite its bombing of the Japanese occupying the towns and villages in Burma.

A sergeant-observer, formerly a Calcutta University student in law and economics, of one of the R.A.F. bomber squadrons which are carrying out these daily attacks gives a vivid description of the difficulties which had to be overcome by our crews in one of their recent raids on Kalewa in north-west Burma.

"We suddenly realised that we were in danger of flying into the side of a mountain," he says. "We were in dense cloud at the time, so thick that it was difficult to see the wing-tips. Then the mountain loomed up on our portside—we seemed to be only a few hundred feet away."

"My pilot made a quick turn and, circling the valley in which we had been flying so as to gain height, was just able to clear the mountain top. We reached our objective at Kalewa all right and dropped our bombs on the target."

The sergeant-pilot of the aircraft, although he enlisted in England—he lived

at Dartford, Kent—was born in India. His father is a resident of Cawnpore. The observer, a Londoner by birth, has lived in India for some years and gave up his University studies to train as the member of a bomber crew.

### RAIDS ON AKYAB

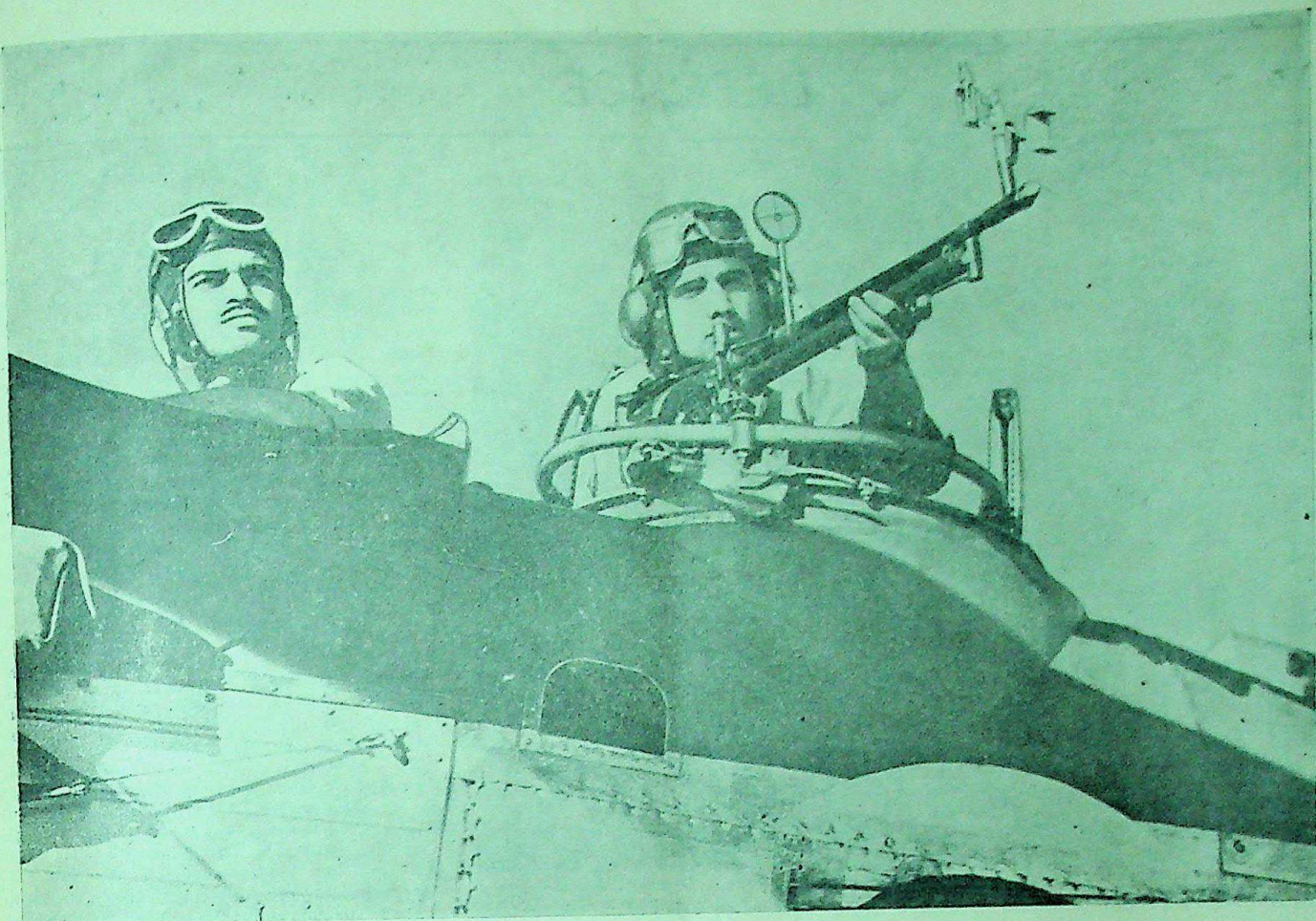
In one of their latest attacks on the Japanese occupied port of Akyab, R.A.F. Blenheims bombed military objectives in the town, the jetty and ground-strafted the aerodrome.

One of the pilots, an Australian from Adelaide, describing the raids, said: "We dropped our bombs on some red tiled buildings, blowing them up, and strafed machine-gun posts on the aerodrome. Akyab's military objectives are just about flattened out. After we left Akyab we made a machine-gun attack on some military hutments on Oyster Island."

The same pilot has taken part in the many raids on Magwe, the Chindwin River and Kalewa during the last two months, in hazardous monsoon weather. Describing the scenes on the Chindwin River, he said that the banks were "lined with sunken barges and boats"—tribute to the accuracy of R.A.F. bombing and the adequate scorched earth policy adopted by General Alexander's troops before leaving Burma.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1942





AKYAB AND MANDALAY IN BURMA ARE AMONG THE PLACES POUNDED BY R.A.F. AND I.A.F. HERE ARE AN INDIAN REAR GUNNER AND A PILOT

## ACCURATE BOMBING BY R. A. F. BLENHEIMS

**W**hen Royal Air Force Blenheims switched their attack to railway stations and rolling stock in Burma recently, some deadly accurate bombing was recorded on important target points.

An Australian crew who, two months ago, destroyed a Navy 'O' fighter near Magwe, scored no fewer than four direct hits on buildings and the permanent way at Thazi, which is some distance south of Mandalay.

The bomb-aimer, who comes from Wiluna, Western Australia, registered a direct hit on an engine shed in which a locomotive was standing and followed up this by dropping bombs right on a truck, the permanent way and a large red-roofed building at the junction of the main line and a siding.

The pilot, who hails from Melbourne, reported that the building was set ablaze.

### Striking Success

It was on the same day that the R.A.F. attacked Mandalay railway station, and here, too, the raid met with striking success.

The Squadron leader, a Scotsman, who led the raid, says: "We dropped our bombs in two sticks. The first straddled a number of trucks which were standing in the corner of the marshalling yard. This was a clear hit and we saw an explosion. Our second stick dropped near a group of locomotives."



CLOSE-UP VIEW OF A DOUGLAS CARRIER

Not far from the railway siding, motor transport on the road was spotted and this was machine-gunned by the crew who also used their guns on river transport close to Mandalay on the Irrawaddy.

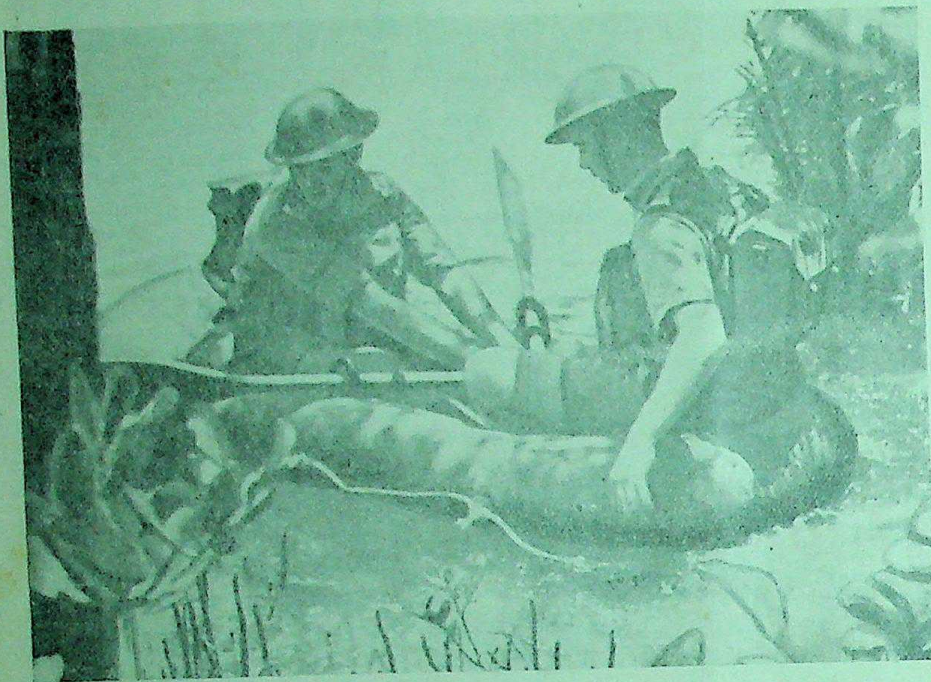
Members of another crew, piloted by an Australian from Adelaide, first bombed

the railway station at Myittha, hitting trucks and the line, and later indulged in ground strafing at Mandalay.

An attack was also made on objectives at Akyab where anti-aircraft fire was encountered and one of our planes was hit.



## DEFENCE



ONE OF THE TWO-MEN BOATS USED TO CONVEY SMALL GROUPS OF MEN ACROSS WATERWAYS



RIVER-CROSSING EXERCISES FORM AN IMPORTANT PART OF ARMY'S NEW-STYLE TRAINING

## RIVER-CROSSING EXERCISES FOR INDIAN TROOPS

The modern soldier must be as at home on the water as he is on land, and river-crossing exercises form an important part of his training.

An Indian Army Observer describes one of these manoeuvres carried out recently by Punjabi, Madrassi and Nepalese troops.

The first signs of dawn revealed groups of men in silhouette, each group with their collapsible boat raised shoulder high, ready for the signal which would begin the assault.

The signal was given, and the boats were launched. Silently and swiftly the men took their places, and started to urge the boats into the current. A few moments later small, fast-moving blobs in the half-light were all that could be seen of the armada.

Behind the small craft gangs of sappers were launching large double-ended boats. Outboard motors were fitted to these in a matter of moments, and very soon lorries were on their way across the stream, transport for the assault troops now hurling themselves against defence posts on the opposite bank.

### "Success" Signal

As the light became brighter what looked like a well-disciplined ant-hill could be discerned on the opposite shore, and out of this hive of industry a jetty took shape at remarkable speed.

Then a shot from a Vercy pistol rose in the dawn sky. It was the "success" signal, and the troops sat down for a well-earned breakfast.

River-crossing exercises begin in still water, graduate to crossings of narrow rivers, and finally include the overcoming of large and swiftly-flowing waterways. Every soldier is taught how to swim and navigate small craft, and the high standard of co-operation shown between infantry and engineers is a source of complete satisfaction to their instructors.

## RECRUITMENT TO R.I.A.S.C.

There is a demand for Viceroy's Commissioned Officer-cadets for training in the Motor Transport branch of the R.I.A.S.C. Age limits are 22 years to 36 years inclusive, and the educational qualifications are a pass in the Middle Class of the Anglo-Vernacular School (equivalent to I. A. 2nd Class), and a good knowledge of English.

Application should be made to the nearest Recruiting Officer. Travelling allowance will be paid in the case of those called for interview, and selected candidates will be required to undergo a period of four months' training at Saugor, on completion of which they will be gazetted as Jemadars, and receive pay at the rate of Rs. 75 per month, rising by Rs. 5 to Rs. 100 per month.

This scheme has the particular advantage that it enables those possessing a lower degree of education than that which is required by other branches of the R.I.A.S.C. to avail themselves of training which will make them efficient in the art of mechanical transport, and its many implications to do with motor vehicles.

In these days training of this nature is of the utmost value and must be looked upon as an insurance for the post-war years, when communications will depend to a great extent on road transport. Men with an expert knowledge of motor transport will be in a very favourable position to obtain lucrative employment, either under the Government, or with civilian firms.



## FAMOUS INDIAN REGIMENTS—

By Sir Patrick Cadell

# RAJPUTANA RIFLES

The Rajputana Rifles took a leading part in the attack on Nibeiwa in December, 1940, which was the beginning of General Wavell's great offensive. Had that attack failed, it is probable that the whole course of the campaign would have been changed. But it succeeded within an hour.

Through the minefields went the Indian troops, closely following the British tanks, and the battalion of Rajputana Rifles won many decorations by acts of individual bravery. The capture of Sidi Barrani followed. Five divisions of the Italian army had been routed, and for the most part captured, by two divisions of British and Indian soldiers.

The Indian Division in which the Rifles served was then switched to the frontier between the Sudan and Eritrea. The Italians, who had some first class fighting men in their ranks, were quickly driven across the frontier and then, after hard fighting, out of their fortress positions at Barentu and Agordat. They withdrew to the mountain stronghold of Keren where they had the advantages of positions naturally strong, with great superiority of numbers.

## Battle Ends In Victory

The British General, however, did not hesitate to attack. Many hills were captured, but as the Italian forces far outnumbered the Imperial troops, it was impossible to make much progress and the arrival of another Division working down from the seacoast had to be awaited. At last, at the end of March, 1941, the seven-week battle ended with the capture of the Italian positions and the flight of their army.

In this grim and bitter fighting, the Rajputana Rifles had their full share. Their greatest honour was the winning of the Victoria Cross by one of their Indian officers, Subedar Richpal Ram. In the first attack on the Keren position, the Subedar attained his objective with 30 men, all that was left of his Company. They beat back all counter-attacks till their ammunition was exhausted, when the handful of survivors fought their way back to their battalion.

Four days later the Subedar led another attack on the same position. His right foot was blown off, and he received other wounds to which he eventually succumbed; but, lying wounded, he cheered his men on and they took the objective.

## "A Model Of Skilful Courage"

Thus the Regiment added to an already cherished distinction. More than 80 years before, the first V.C. awarded to the Indian Army had been won by an officer of one of its battalions.

The Regiment saw further fighting on the Libyan frontier in the heavy attack on the German-held position near Sollum at the end of June. The enemy were strongly reinforced from Tobruk, and the British and Indian troops, having achieved their object of relieving pressure elsewhere, finally withdrew. The Rajputana Rifles were surrounded on three sides and their retirement was a model of skilful courage.



Indian troops man an anti-aircraft gun during an exercise by the Command and Signals of an Indian Division in Iraq

An even harder task was allotted to them in Syria. Here again an advance had to be made over difficult country against an enemy superior in numbers. With a half battalion of the 1st Punjab Regiment beside which it had fought in Africa, the battalion captured Kessoué and was ordered to push on to Mezze.

This village was taken after intense fighting, but the little force was then surrounded by greatly superior numbers with tanks and artillery. All through the day and night the defence was continued from house to house until, with ammunition exhausted and the enemy's guns firing at point-blank range, the survivors were obliged to surrender after 36 hours' fighting.

But their sacrifice was not in vain. The Vichy forces had been drawn from Damascus, which in their absence was quickly secured by the Free French. This led to the Vichy Commander asking for an armistice, following which Syria was handed over to the Allies, and all prisoners of war were released.

## Served Under Wellington

The fame which the Rajputana Rifles have already won in this war is worthy of the Regiment's great tradition. Its battalions are, with the exception of the Training Battalion, descended from regiments of the old Bombay Army. The earliest of them, now the first Battalion of the Regiment, was raised in 1775 and shared in the hard-fought campaigns of that Army.

Not only did it serve under the orders, and receive the commendation of Arthur Wellesley, later the Duke of Wellington, but it had the distinction of being the first Rifle Regiment in the Indian Army.

The other battalions also took an honourable share in many campaigns. The 4th Battalion had the famous Sir James Outram as its Adjutant for several years, and in the war with Persia was under his command.

The 5th Battalion won the special affection of that fine old soldier Charles Napier. He singled it out as the Regiment that he loved. In a later campaign, this battalion was, as a historian put it, "often

mentioned and never without honour." Thus it has come about that three of the battalions bear the names of three great British Generals, Wellesley, Outram and Napier.

## Service In Great War

These Bombay Regiments were originally composed principally of Mahrattas, together with men speaking the same language, but not of the Mahratta caste. There was also a large element from the North, Brahmans and Rajputs of Oudh.

Gradually, the class system already adopted in the Bengal and Punjab forces was applied to the Bombay Regiments. The Mahrattas were enrolled in their own battalions, while the others drew their men from outside sources. Those of the Rajputana Rifles came especially from Rajputana and the Punjab.

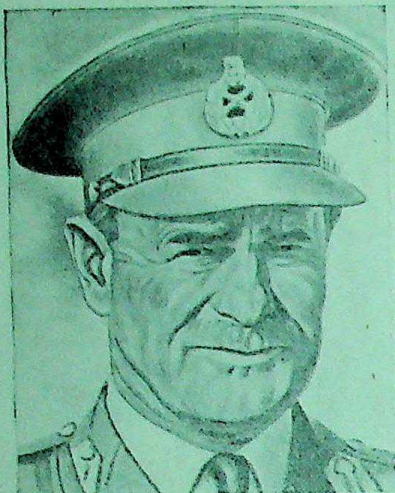
The first great test of the reconstituted battalions came in the war of 1914, and gallantly did those which were to form the Rajputana Rifles respond to it. The 1st and 2nd Battalions were in the Brigades which won repeated victories over the Turks in Mesopotamia till, overcome by numbers, they were beleaguered in Kut, and their remnants made prisoner.

The 4th Battalion gained a great name in Palestine; while the 5th Battalion served in the trenches in Flanders, then in the still more costly attempts to relieve Kut, and finally in Allenby's decisive campaign in Palestine. Today, the sons of the men who fought so gallantly 25 years ago are adding fresh honours to the name of the Rajputana Rifles.

## THE 6th RAJPUTANA RIFLES

In the battle of Keren, a battalion of the 6th Rajputana Rifles took part and not a battalion of the 7th Rajput Regiment as stated in the article by Sir Patrick Cadell, entitled "The 7th Rajput Regiment," published in "Indian Information" of July 15, 1942. No battalion of the 7th Rajput Regiment took part in the Abyssinian Campaign.





# Ten Commandments

## A Message from General Wavell

A British Officer in 1939 put up a list of Ten Commandments for troops under his command when they first went overseas in Europe in this war. These Commandments have such a general application to those of us whose duties have taken us away from our homes to fight the enemy wherever he may be found, that I commend to each of you who finds himself in the India Command the following, based largely on the same basic idea, but with broader application. I would urge you to make them your standard.

**1** Remember that in the eyes of India, Burma and Ceylon, you represent your nation. It is on your uniform, your conduct and your discipline that the people of this country will judge your country.

**2** Remember that the place which is only a temporary station for you is home for the inhabitant whose memories bind him or her to every object it contains. Ask yourself: 'if the war were being waged on our soil and troops from this land had come to my home to help in its defence, how would I wish them to behave?'

**3** As this is the first time you have been in this land, be careful not to judge the people too hastily. Many of their customs are very different from yours: it is no reason to think that they are inferior. Remember the last war and the part the Indian Army played in it. With means which appear small enough to us the Indian Army achieved results which were considerable. In this war that Army has already shared shoulder to shoulder with Allied troops the initial victory of Sidi Barrani against the Italians. Indians played a major part in sweeping the Italians from Eritrea and overcoming the enemy in Abyssinia. They have given of their best in Syria, Iraq and Iran. They have shared the bitterness of the initial disaster in the Far East and many thousands of them are now fellow-prisoners of war with your brothers in Hongkong and Singapore. They have fought a splendid fight with British and Burmans in the disheartening delaying action in Burma.

**4** Remind yourself that attitudes of mind which may seem natural to you because they are what you are accustomed to at home can, without your realising it, shock and even wound an Indian. Other peoples are not accustomed to the indifference with which the English are apt to treat each other. Always show a friend here a little more consideration than you would a fellow-countryman.

**5** The women of the country that you are in are under your protection. Treat them as you would like your own mothers and sisters, or wives and daughters to be treated in your absence.

**6** Strive to become good at your job. Make yourself familiar with your arms. Apply yourself in making your battalion, your battery or your squadron a crack unit. Attach great importance to the details of your clothing and your discipline. The value of a fighting force lies in its habits.

**7** The country you are in is entrusting to you the security of a sector of herself. It is a great honour. Strive never to yield an inch of that ground.

**8** Guard against spreading or listening to rumour. Enemy propaganda seeks to sow unrest and panic. Only repeat what you know and what is permissible to repeat. Whoever says: 'I haven't seen myself but I have heard about it' may be unwittingly assisting the enemy. Be an example of coolness. We are reputed to come of a phlegmatic race. It is a fine reputation. Deserve it.

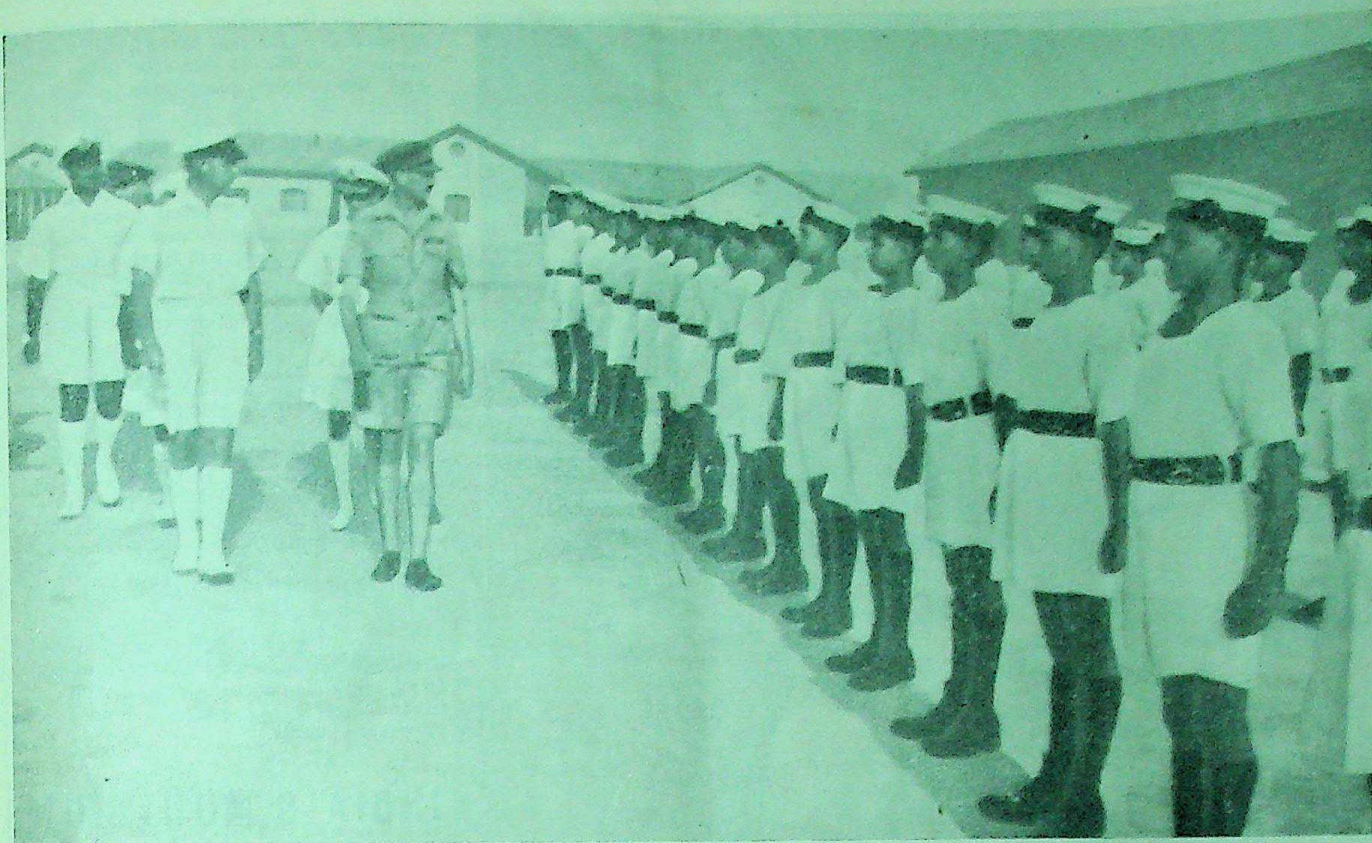
**9** Study the language of the country while you are here. Help your hosts to learn English. Our common task is not only to win the war but to win the peace. This we will only be able to do if we remain united: we will only remain united if we understand one another. In future strength will only be found in partnership: that requires of all of us common duties and common studies.

**10** The alliance of our countries has been born of political and military history: it must become a human reality. These countries which have need of one another must esteem one another. It is up to YOU to see that your nation is regarded as an ally worthy of trust and affection by 10, 20—a 100 of the people you are among.

*A.P. Wavell*

GENERAL  
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN INDIA





H. R. H. THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER RECENTLY INSPECTED THE BOYS OF H. M. I. S. "DILAWAR" AT KARACHI

## THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER'S TRIBUTE TO FIGHTING FORCES

**H**ere is the farewell message sent by Lieut.-General His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester on his departure from India to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India :—

On leaving India after my tour of India and Ceylon, I wish to tell you how much I have been impressed by all I have seen, and by the bearing, turnout and cheerful spirit of the units I have inspected. Please convey my thanks to those who have been responsible for making the arrangements for my visits and inspections, which enabled me in a short time to see so many of the fighting forces.

### Best Wishes

I am confident that when these forces enter into battle, wherever it may be, they will show themselves worthy of the great fighting traditions of the races to which they belong.

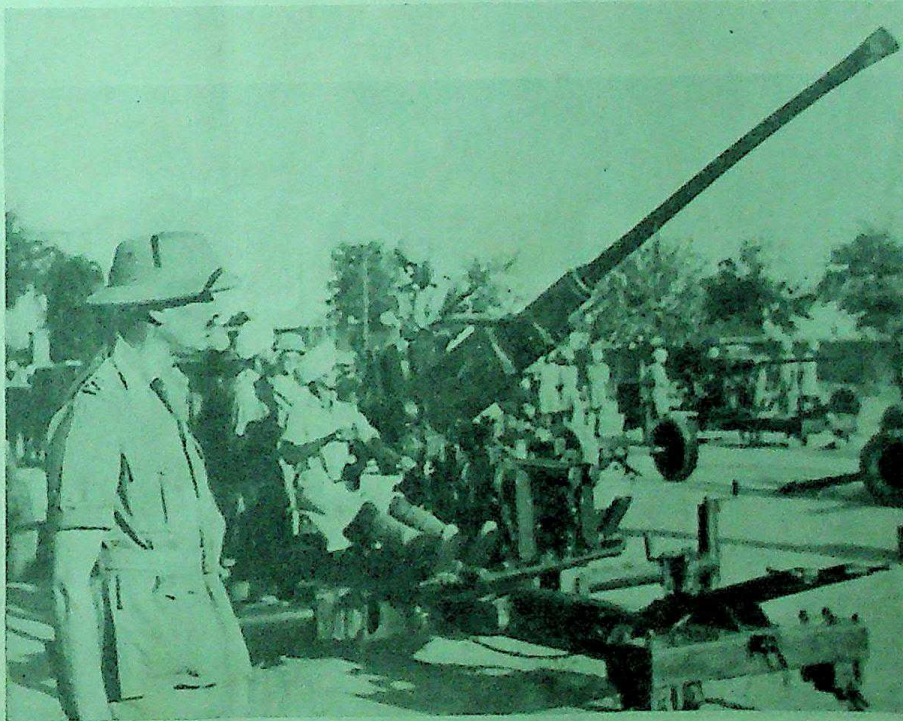
We are all serving in a common cause that justice and truth and kindness in which we all believe may prevail, and that thereby we may be able to return to our homes and to peaceful lives.

I wish you to convey to all ranks my best wishes for the future, and I am sure that by their courage, discipline and endurance we shall achieve an early and complete victory.

### Commander-In-Chief's Reply

General Sir Archibald Wavell's reply reads :—

On behalf of all ranks of the Forces in India I thank Your Royal Highness for the message in your letter of July 14.



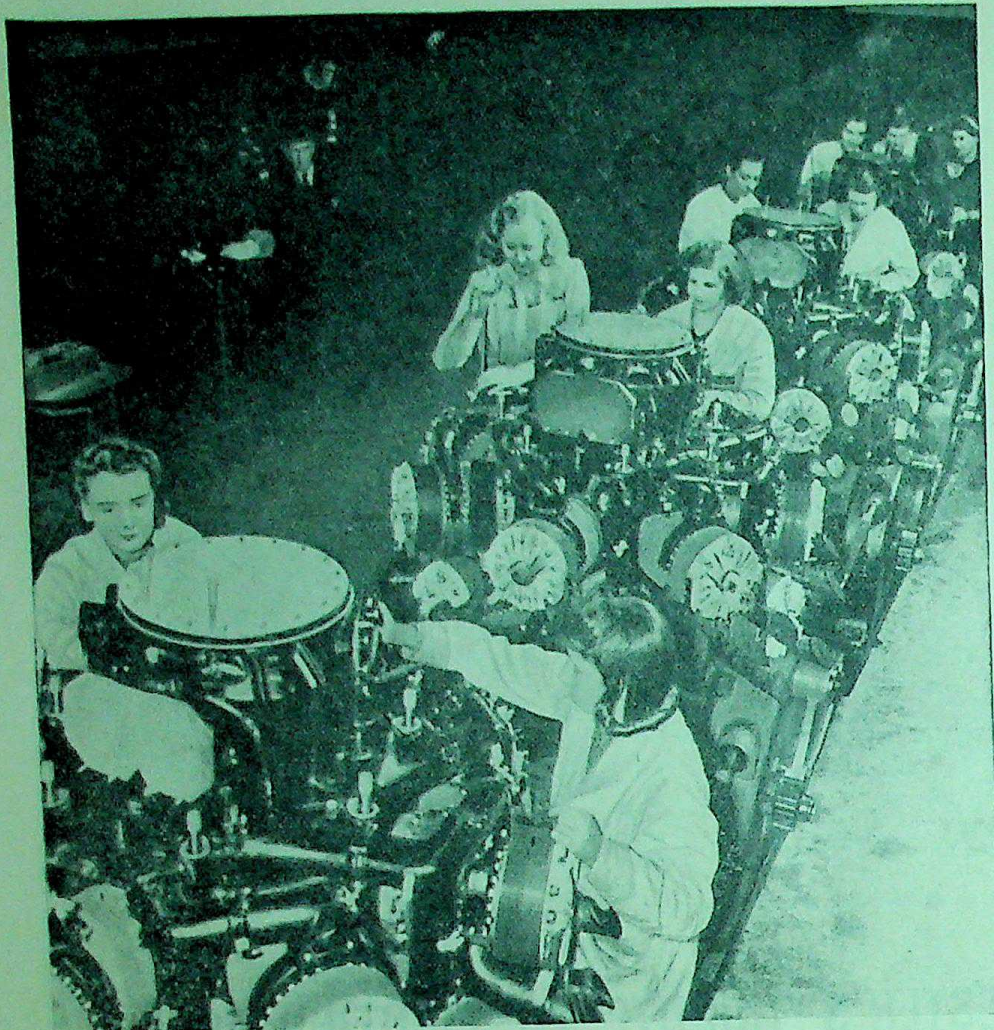
THE DUKE WITNESSES A DEMONSTRATION BY SIKH ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNNERS

The visit of Your Royal Highness has been an inspiration to all three Services of the Forces in India, who have deeply appreciated the interest you have shown in them by undertaking such an arduous tour during the hot weather. Please assure His Majesty that we will fight on with endurance till the final victory of justice and truth is assured. We wish you a safe voyage and happy landing.

### HONORARY ARMY RANKS

His Majesty the King-Emperor has approved the promotion of Their Highnesses the Maharaja of Tripura, the Maharaja of Patiala and the Nawab of Junagadh to the Honorary rank of Major in the Army and to grant the Honorary rank of Lieutenant to His Highness the Maharaja of Bharatpur.





GIRLS WORKING ON THE ASSEMBLY OF AERO-ENGINES IN A FACTORY SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND

owing to the higher cost of living, etc. In February this year the stipend was again increased to Rs. 37 p.m. for those trainees who successfully passed the probationary period.

Under the new conditions all trainees undergo a probationary period of 4 to 6 weeks and Matriculates will receive Rs. 45 p.m. throughout the whole period of training. Non-Matriculates who are considered suitable for training will receive Rs. 27 per month during the probationary period and Rs. 37 p.m. upon passing their tests and throughout the remainder of their civil training.

Considerable numbers of trainees have already passed through this training scheme, which aims at producing flight mechanics and ground technicians for the Indian Air Force as well as for Civil Aviation. It is hoped that the new rates of pay will result in a big increase in the number of trainees coming forward, and it is being stressed that the scheme is one of the best which has ever been offered to the young men of India.

The advantages of being an expert aviation mechanic now-a-days are apparent to all, and the opportunities in Civil Aviation in India after the war are bound to be very considerable.

## INDIA'S MUNITIONS PROGRAMME

A vital component of an alcohol acetone plant has recently run the gauntlet of U-Boats and the aerial torpedo, and carried across thousands of miles of sea, has safely arrived at its destination. Its installation will soon gear production to full capacity, marking a most important step forward in India's munitions programme.

Altogether four expansion projects have been completed in recent weeks. These include a new rod mill at a metal and steel factory and the modernisation of a high explosive factory, a cordite factory and an ammunition filling factory. The projects have already been handed over for production. At another factory, work on a shell machining plant is practically complete.

### Eastern Group Projects

The various Eastern Group projects forge ahead. Sanction has been received for a new Rs. 14,00,000-project for the erection of an additional toluene plant which will still further step up toluene production in the country. The cost will be met by His Majesty's Government.

A scheme for the manufacture of calcium carbide in India is at present under active consideration.

New production records of several munitions items were registered by India's ordnance factories during April and May. These included 2-pounder and 18-pounder shots, tracers, mortar bombs, small arms ammunition, grenades, rifles and bayonets. 178 tons of high-grade tool steel were also manufactured during April and production of fuzes reached a new record figure.

Deposits of sodium sulphate have been discovered in Rajputana. Both sodium sulphate and sulphide are at present imported from the United Kingdom and it is hoped that the exploitation of this new source will contribute to self-sufficiency in this chemical which is used both for industrial and defence purposes.

Deliveries of timber during May were more than 2½ times the average rate of the previous year 1941-42.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1942



MEMBER OF W.A.A.F. WORKING ON MODIFICATIONS ON TURN AND BANK INDICATORS

## CIVIL AVIATION TECHNICAL TRAINING

A big increase in the subsistence allowance for trainees under the Civil Aviation Technical Training Scheme is announced.

Originally trainees received Rs. 25 per month which was increased to Rs. 27 p.m.



# Russian Newsreel



RUSSIAN WOMEN DIG TRAPS FOR NAZI TANKS

TYPICAL KOREAN SOLDIER

COLLECTING WARM CLOTHING FOR SOLDIERS

WHEAT FIELD IN FERTILE UKRAINE

CARPET MADE IN BAKHARDEN DISTRICT

GENERAL TYULENEV (CENTRE), MOSCOW AREA COMMANDER

RUSSIAN GIRL DONATES HER BLOOD

KUIBYSHEV, RUSSIA'S WARTIME CAPITAL

ON THE LOOK-OUT FOR NAZIS

A CAPTAIN OF SOVIET AIR FORCE

COLLECTIVE FARMERS AT WORK

MAIL FROM HOME ARRIVES

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1942





CLOSE-UP VIEW OF AN ARMY SNIPER IN HIS CAMOUFLAGE SUIT

## CAMOUFLAGE DUPES NAZIS

Using a camel as camouflage, an Indian Medical Officer who had been called upon by the Germans to surrender in the Western Desert, eluded his would-be captors, and regained his own lines after having had a long conversation with an Italian sentry.

The doctor's first contact with the enemy was when a German tank trained its guns on the trench in which he had his Regimental Aid Post. At that moment a friendly battery began firing, and the tank moved off. The M. O. decided that the spot had become uncomfortable, and, waiting for darkness, he followed suit.

"Plain Hell!"

The tank must have made a report, for the doctor had not got far when he heard German voices calling to him in excellent English: "Give yourselves up, boys. You can't escape."

The doctor had other ideas, and kept on. He was just congratulating himself when he bumped into an Italian sentry. Fortunately the doctor spoke a little Italian, and while the Germans searched for him in the darkness he remained snugly chatting to the sentry.

After leaving the Italian he spent a less comfortable half-hour while our bombers, swooping low over enemy positions, gave them "plain hell." The doctor said the bombing was extremely accurate, and the Germans were quickly thrown into confusion.

Dawn revealed an enemy column behind him, but ahead he could hear the sound of friendly guns. Just when he was resigning himself to being sighted by the Germans an ownerless camel came into view, plodding its slow way towards the British lines.

The doctor fell in behind the camel, hoping that the Germans would mistake

## DEFENCE

him for the owner. His ruse was successful. Where the camel went he was bound to go, but it was quite a patriotic camel, and led him through the most dangerous part before setting another course.

A few moments later the doctor was sipping hot tea as he was driven to safety in a South African armoured car.

## GUARDING SECRET INFORMATION

Many commercial firms and civil organizations which have business dealings with the Defence Services naturally come into possession of information which would be of value to the enemy.

While most business houses have realised the secret nature of this information and have treated it as such, evidence has come to hand that others have unwittingly passed it on to third parties. It is, therefore, stressed that all information regarding the Services reaching the hands of firms should be closely guarded and suitable measures taken to ensure that it is not divulged to unauthorised persons. The maximum security is especially essential when such information is conveyed through the post and every advantage should be taken of the safeguards provided by the postal authorities for such purposes.

An example of information valuable to the enemy which would come into possession of such firms would be a list of units stationed in a single district and it is information of this type, among others, that should be closely guarded.

## ESSENTIAL SERVICES MAINTENANCE ORDINANCE

Nothing in the Essential Services (Maintenance) Ordinance affects the liability of an individual to be called up for service under any other law for the time being in force, declares an Ordinance issued on July 28, 1942.

The Ordinance has been issued lest an individual should imagine that the obligation to remain in a certain employment under the Essential Services (Maintenance) Ordinance overrides any obligation to undertake employment elsewhere which may be imposed on him, for instance, under the National Service (Technical Personnel) Ordinance.

Although Section 9 of the Essential Services (Maintenance) Ordinance in its original form provided that any declaration, order, rule or regulation made and any direction given under the Ordinance shall have effect notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in any Act, regulation or ordinance, it was never intended that persons engaged in employments notified under the Essential Services (Maintenance) Ordinance should not be available for calling up under any other law for the time being in force. This section has now been replaced by the Ordinance issued on July 28, 1942.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1942



# INDIAN RUBBER INDUSTRY

The greatest economy in the use of rubber for manufactured goods will continue to be, it is understood, the policy of Government.

Conservation of rubber resources has already led to the issue of the Tyre Rationing Order which ensures that tyres are obtainable only for special purposes and that considerable quantities of scrap rubber are available for reclaim.

Steps are also necessary to cut down the consumption of rubber for other non-essential purposes. A policy of rationalisation and regimentation of the rubber industry has been endorsed by the War Resources Committee.

Apart from the four or five larger factories manufacturing basically essential products such as tyres, cables, etc., there are over a 100 minor concerns engaged in the manufacture of a variety of rubber products, many of which cannot be regarded as essential or for which substitutes cannot be found.

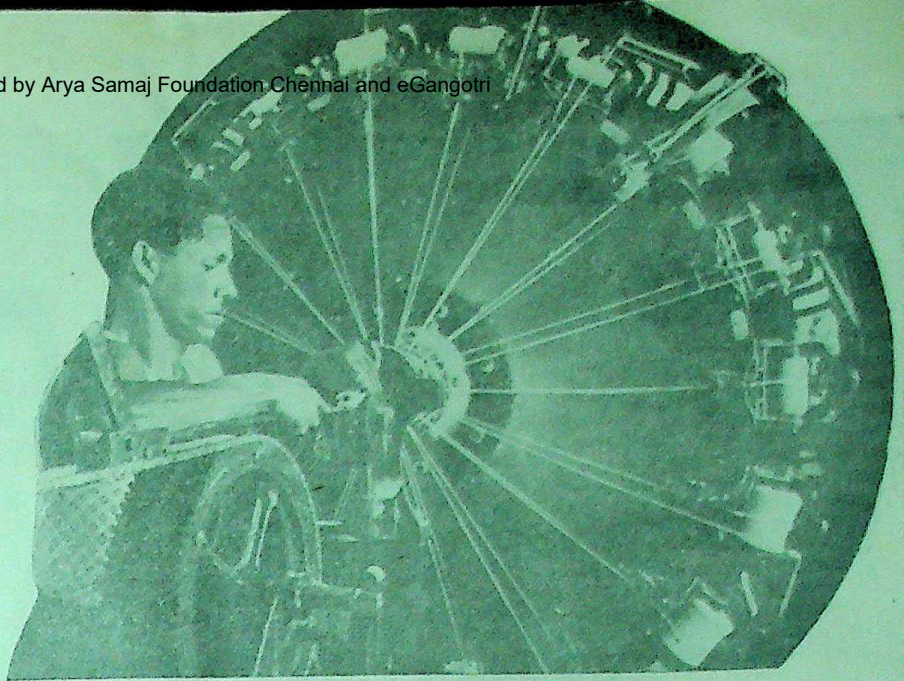
## Programme Of Rationalisation

To re-organise and if necessary re-group the capacity of these concerns for the purpose of increasing the production of rubber manufactures required for the prosecution of the war or to effect economies in the use of rubber and to encourage and examine possibilities for rubber substitutes in less essential articles, are tasks to which Government have directed their energies. By this programme of rationalisation it is hoped to secure an increased volume of production of the goods most needed for the war effort.

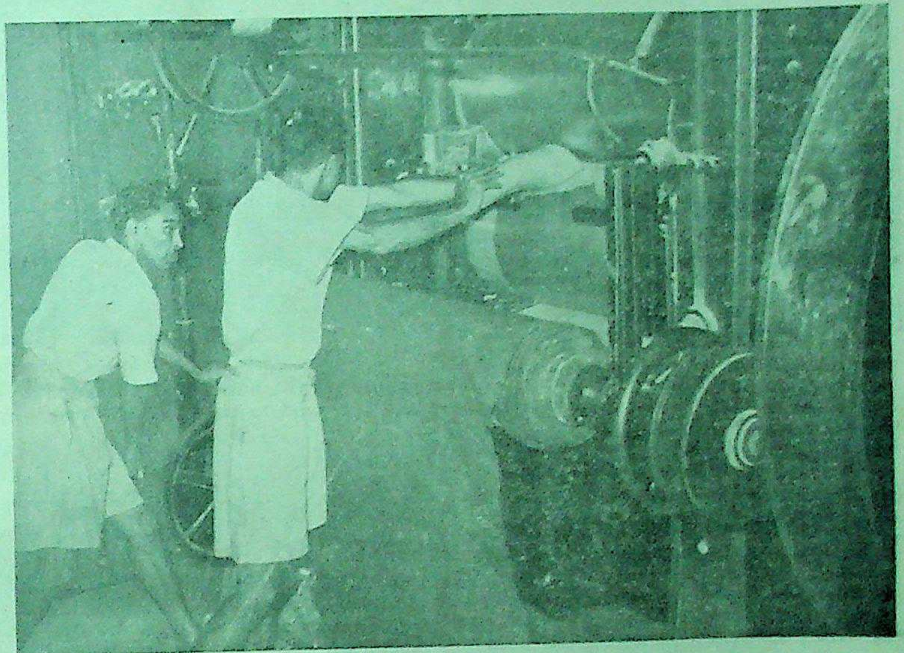
It is understood that a rational policy in regard to rubber manufactures should be satisfactory as India's rubber production will, in consequence, be keyed up to ensure that essential requirements are met. Much has been done already in the way of substitutes. A Travancore Association has been requested to forward samples of coir rope soles, while as a substitute for rubber-proofed ground sheets, two firms in India are experimenting with a water-proofed fabric suitable for use in the place of rubber-proofed ground sheets. The test reports so far received show that by instituting certain modifications in proofing material, acceptable substitutes may be produced shortly.

## EXPORT QUOTAS OF RUBBER

In accordance with the provisions of the Indian Rubber Control Act, 1934, a notification has been issued by the Central Government fixing the permissible maximum net exports of dry rubber from British India for the third quarter of 1942 at 5,325 tons and similar periodic notifications will be issued. Such notifications are generally in formal compliance with statutory requirements but in order to conserve India's limited supplies for her own essential requirements, the export of raw rubber is at present prohibited and exports of rubber manufactures are strictly controlled.



A TRAVANCORE RUBBER FACTORY MANUFACTURES BRAIDED HOSE FOR A.R.P. PURPOSES



Rubberising of cloth for A.R.P. hosing. The rubber is squeezed between the two upper rollers and applied to the cloth passing between the two lower rollers



MAKING A COMPOSITION OF RUBBER FOR PREPARING GROUND SHEETS FOR THE ARMY





Women workers in the rubber factory do the finishing of the ground sheets. Nearly a thousand ground sheets are daily manufactured and delivered to the Indian Army by the Travancore rubber factory

## WAR RESOURCES COMMITTEE'S DECISIONS

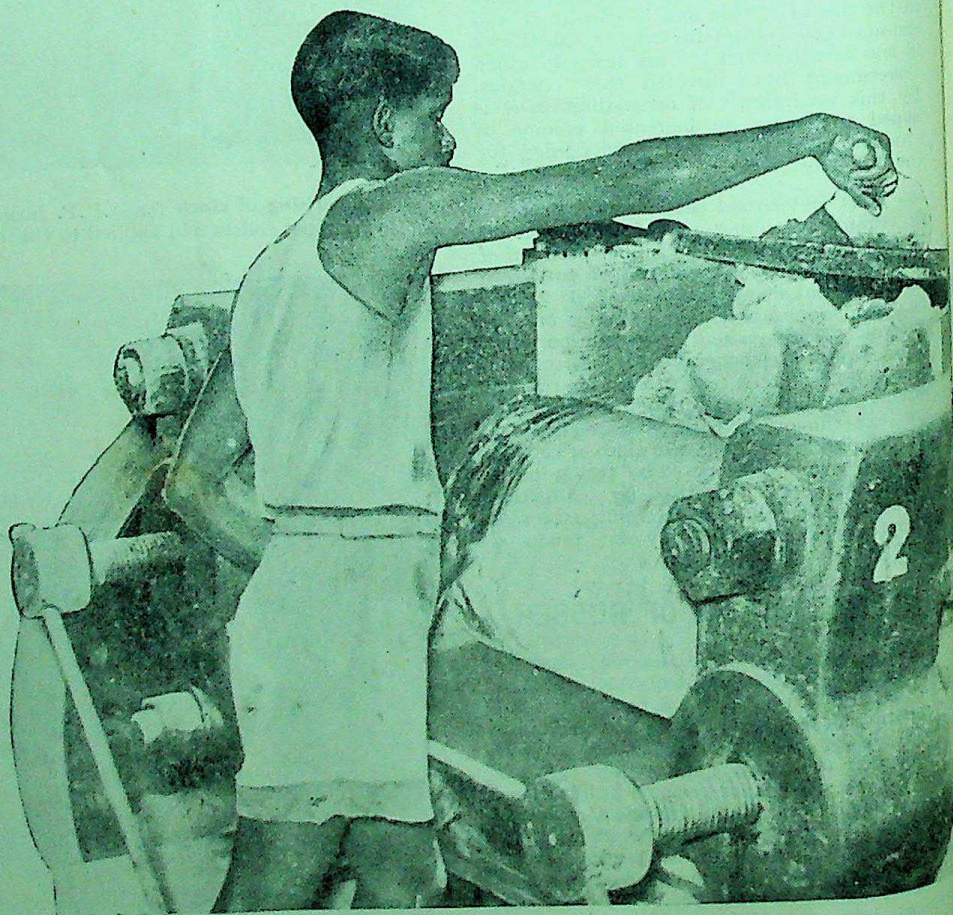
**T**he War Resources Committee has been meeting almost daily since its formation and has already covered a great deal of ground. The recommendations of the American Technical Mission are being systematically considered, and decisions have been taken on a number of these and other questions relating to the war effort.

One of the principal recommendations of the Mission concerned the rationalisation and regimentation of industry and the more efficient use of engineering and munitions workshops. This recommendation is being actively pursued. The Jute Mills Association has been called upon to prepare a rationalisation scheme to save transportation. The Director-General of Supply has been instructed to take immediate action to increase the production of leather and army boots, and to rationalise the rubber manufacturing industry.

On the Munitions Production side, Major-General Wood has been appointed Additional Director-General to prepare and execute schemes for the rationalisation and more efficient use of the general engineering industry, which is engaged in the production of munitions components as well as a very large range of general stores.

Major-General Wood, who served as Director-General of Supply until his services were requisitioned for a special mission in Assam, has been reverted to the Supply Department in order that he may undertake this important work.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 188]



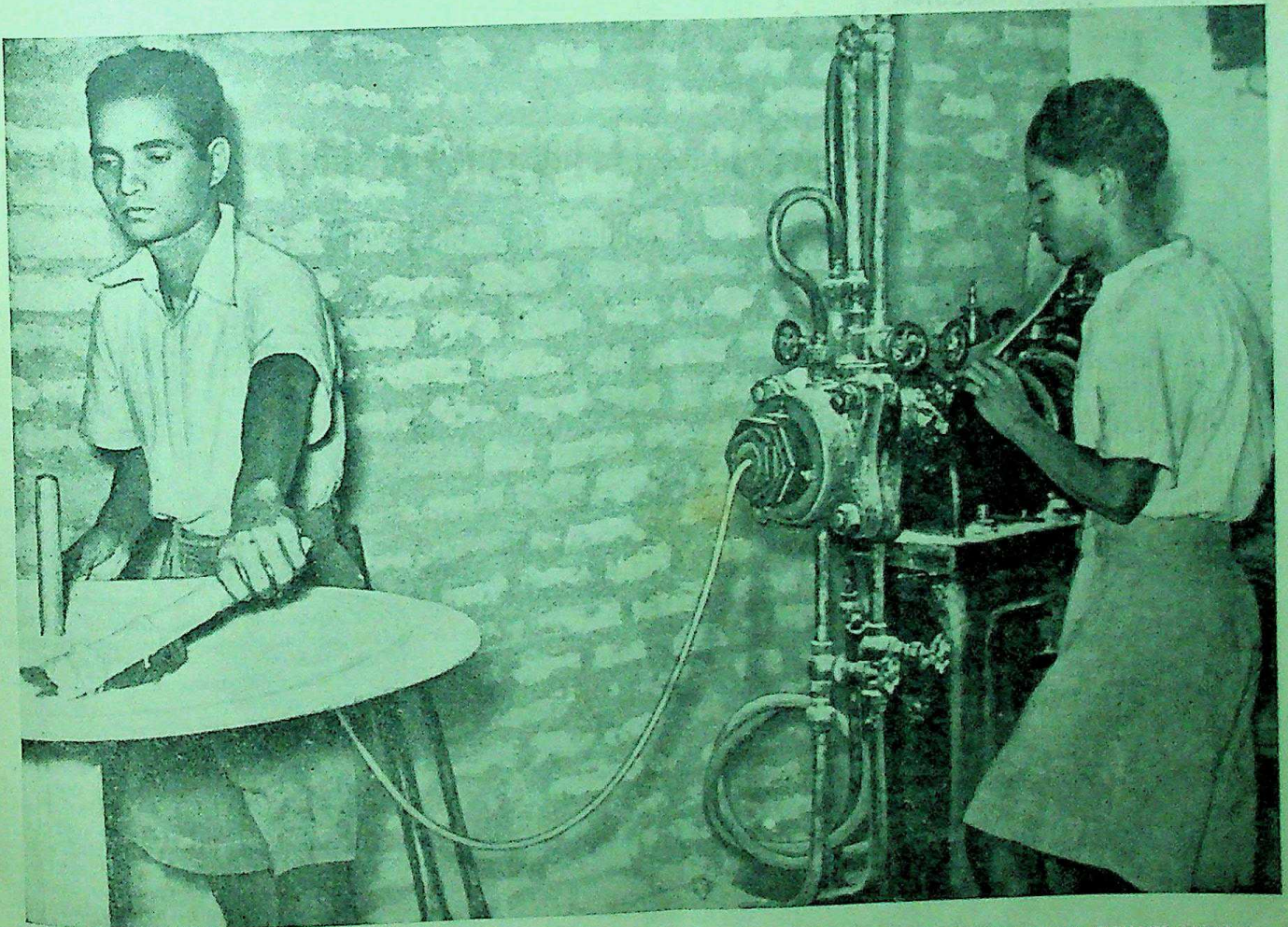
THIS WORKER HANDLES RUBBER USED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF ARMY GROUND SHEETS

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1942





These workers are coiling A.R.P. hose in a factory in the rubber-growing area of South India. This factory produces more than 12,000 feet of hose daily to supply the requirements of Indian A.R.P. organisations



TOURNIQUET TUBING IS MANUFACTURED IN THE TRAVANCORE RUBBER FACTORY AT THE RATE OF FIVE THOUSAND YARDS DAILY

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1942



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

## WAR RESOURCES COMMITTEE

[ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 186 ]

The War Resources Committee will keep in close touch with all measures taken under the policy laid down, and it is confident that industry will co-operate freely on fair and reasonable terms in the interests of the national war effort, and that compulsion will be the exception rather than the rule. The officers concerned will be expected to prepare their schemes in close consultation with industry.

The group of recommendations concerning transportation and communications has also been dealt with. The Committee has sanctioned a scheme for the improvement of telegraph and telephone facilities at a cost of Rs. 8 crores, and has in hand measures to expand facilities and to expedite clearances at ports; to improve the working of transportation in military depots; to expedite the provision of locomotives and rolling stock; and to develop road and river transportation. Plans for the production of power alcohol are being pushed on, and twelve plants have been ordered from the United States. A detailed inquiry into the wasteful use of transportation by Government departments has been initiated.

Special progress reports have been called for on the new expansions in the steel industry and the production of aluminium, and measures for the better conservation of motor spirit, rubber and tin are under consideration.

### INDIAN SUPPLY MISSION

The functions of the Indian Purchasing Mission in the United States go beyond the aspect of purchase and in fact extend over the whole question of securing for India the materials, etc. she needs. In consequence the Government of India have agreed to the Indian Purchasing Mission renaming itself the Indian Supply Mission. This does not, of course, imply any change in functions.

The British Purchasing Mission in the United States of America has also recently changed its name to the British Ministry of Supply Mission.

### NEWSPAPER CONTROL ORDER

On May 16, 1942, the Government of India announced the issue of a revised Newspaper Control Order effecting a further reduction in the maximum number of pages of newspapers.

The revised Order fixes a quota of pages for all issues of a newspaper published in a period, with reference to the price and Class of size of the newspaper. This quota is the same for all sizes of newspapers falling in any particular Class and sold at any particular price irrespective of the actual page-area of any individual newspaper, i.e., the Order does not permit the publication of a number of pages larger than that specified in the relevant Schedule on the ground that the actual page-area of the newspaper concerned is less than the maximum page-area of a newspaper falling in the Class concerned.

Newspapers which have been contravening the provisions of the Order under a *bona fide* misapprehension of the position as explained above are advised forthwith to conform to those provisions.

## SALT SUPPLIES IN INDIA

The Government of India have seen it stated that there is a scarcity of salt in India and even that famine in this commodity may be apprehended. The correct position is that the existing arrangements for production are more than sufficient for the annual consumption which is estimated at 530 lakh maunds per annum.

The total of the stocks in India on June 15, 1942, was 362 lakh maunds, and it is clear, therefore, that the stocks are ample for immediate demands. Temporary shortage may, however, occur now and then on a local scale owing to difficulties of transport arising from wartime conditions. This cannot be entirely avoided, but whatever is possible is being done to arrange supplies in deficit areas by making more railway wagons available for the purpose.

### A Special Problem

While there are ample stocks in the country as a whole, there is a special problem in the Eastern Provinces where there is a preference for a fine quality of white salt which, before the war, was exported by sea from foreign countries and from Karachi and Western India. Special arrangements have been made to meet this deficit by increased supplies from Karachi and the west coast of India.

A suggestion has been made that the collection and preparation of salt on the sea coast and in inland areas may be freely

permitted and that there should be no duty on the salt so produced. The present position is that salt may be manufactured or collected only for domestic use or for sale within the village of manufacture or collection.

In judging the value of the suggestions made for extending the scope of this concession, it should be remembered that there is no real scarcity in the country, that the present sources of supply are sufficient and that permission, if given, for free manufacture and sale would lead to wholesale evasion of duty and consequent loss to the salt revenue.

In Bengal, however, where there is a scarcity of salt, arrangements are being made by the Bengal Government in conjunction with the Central authorities for increased manufacture of salt by villagers. The salt when manufactured will be purchased by Government agents and stored in warehouses from which it will be issued duty paid.

As regards the suggestion about duty, the Government of India find it difficult to see any connection between it and the local shortages which occasionally arise. Even at present there is a substantial margin between the cost of manufacture and the controlled price of salt and the abolition or reduction of duty is not necessary to ensure that adequate supplies are always available.

## AID TO INDIAN INDUSTRIES

### Facilities At The Alipore Test House

A wide variety of materials, including textile goods, electrical equipment and stores, building and general engineering materials, vacuum brake fittings, metals and alloys, minerals and ores and miscellaneous stores, such as oils, lubricants, paints, varnishes, chemicals, fuels, etc., etc., are tested in the Government Test House, Alipore, Calcutta, to determine their qualities. The charges for tests and analyses are laid down in the "Schedule of Charges" issued by the Government of India. There are two "Schedules of Charges"—one for the Government Departments and the other for private firms and individuals. Copies of these Schedules are obtainable at a nominal price from the Government Book Depots.

The facilities for testing provided in that office are available to the general public no less than to Government Departments. Fees are charged for all tests carried out, and test certificates bearing the Government seal are issued for all samples tested. Such test certificates can be used by firms and individuals for commercial purposes.

### Schedule Of Fees

The Government of India are alive to the difficulties which nascent and undeveloped Indian industries may experience

in getting their products tested at the Government Test House on payment of fees at the scheduled rates, and have given their anxious consideration to the question of affording some measure of relief in the matter of fees in cases which stand in need of such concession. The question of revision of the schedule of fees is under consideration, and pending a final decision on the subject it has been decided, as an experimental measure for a further period of one year, to reduce the testing fees to a certain definite extent in cases where Government are satisfied as to the need for concession.

Firms and individuals intending to take advantage of this concession have to apply to the Director, Government Test House, Alipore, Calcutta, substantiating their claim to such concession.

The Government of India have also made provision for the total exemption from payment of fees in specially deserving cases, and firms and individuals, who consider themselves to be in that category, should apply to the Director, Scientific and Industrial Research, University of Delhi, Delhi. On receipt of such applications, the Director, Scientific and Industrial Research, will arrange matters with the Government Test House if he considers that tests free of cost are justified.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1942



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

## REPORT ON CURRENCY AND FINANCE FOR 1941-42

With an increasingly favourable balance of trade, states the Reserve Bank of India's "Report on Currency and Finance" for 1941-42, the Reserve Bank was able to purchase £73,319,000 at an average rate of 1s. 6d. in 1941-42 as compared with £57,083,000 at the same average rate during 1940-41, thus surpassing the purchases amounting to £72,596,000 in 1939-40.

The total amount of Sterling purchased by the Reserve Bank from September 1, 1939 to March 31, 1942, aggregated £195,123,000 (Rs. 260 crores).

At the end of the same period, the Reserve Bank had Rs. 582 crores worth of sterling. It held sterling assets amounting to Rs. 64 crores in August 1939, that is, on the eve of the outbreak of war. Sterling purchased from September 1939 to March 1942 aggregated Rs. 260 crores. His Majesty's Government made sterling payments amounting to Rs. 258 crores during the period, for recoverable war expenditure and purchases in India.

Rs. 218 crores worth of sterling were utilised from September 1939 to March 1942 for the various sterling debt repatriation schemes. Other sterling commitments during the period amounted to Rs. 80 crores. After these transactions, the Reserve Bank had a balance of sterling holdings amounting to Rs. 284 crores at the end of March 1942.

## PROVINCIAL REVENUES

The budget estimates of revenue for 1942-43 of all the eleven provinces of India in the aggregate amount to Rs. 104 crores, as compared with Rs. 106 crores in the revised estimates of 1941-42 and Rs. 97 crores in the accounts of 1940-41. Thus revenue has increased by Rs. 7 crores during the period.

The increase in expenditure between 1940-41 and 1942-43 is slightly higher at Rs. 9 crores. It amounted to Rs. 95 crores in the former year (accounts) and amounts to Rs. 105 crores in the budget estimates of the latter. The revised estimates of last year show an aggregate expenditure of Rs. 105 crores.

### Increased Expenditure

The improvement in provincial finances reflects the stimulating effects of the war on receipts under the provincial share of income-tax, land revenue, excise and forests. Payments of all kinds (including subventions) made by the Centre to the provinces increased from Rs. 7 crores in 1938-39 to Rs. 12.87 crores estimated in 1942-43.

The increased expenditure reflects the additional financial burden entailed in respect of police and civil defence measures, dearness allowances, remission of land revenue and grants to assist cultivators of commercial crops to change over to food grains (in Bombay, Bengal and Madras).

Bombay and the United Provinces have made provisions for post-war rehabilitation.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1942

## WAR RISKS INSURANCE

**Factories** The Government of India have extended the War Risks (Factories) Insurance Scheme to the above-ground machinery of all mines as defined in the Indian Mines Act 1923 in British India with effect from August 15, 1942. The effect of this extension is that all such mines will become compulsorily insurable from August 15, 1942. The rate of premium is four per cent of the insurable value of the property on the date of application, payable in eight equal instalments. Those who apply for insurance by August 31 will be covered retrospectively. Application forms for insurance are available with insurance companies who are acting as Government Agents for the Scheme.

The Scheme has also been extended to the distribution and transmission systems, etc., of Electricity Supply Undertakings and to sluice houses, valve houses, etc., of Hydro-Electric Supply Undertakings. Insurance is not compulsory in respect of distribution and transmission systems of all such undertakings as only those will be notified which desire to benefit by the Scheme. The rate and method of payment of premium is that applicable to the above-ground machinery of mines.

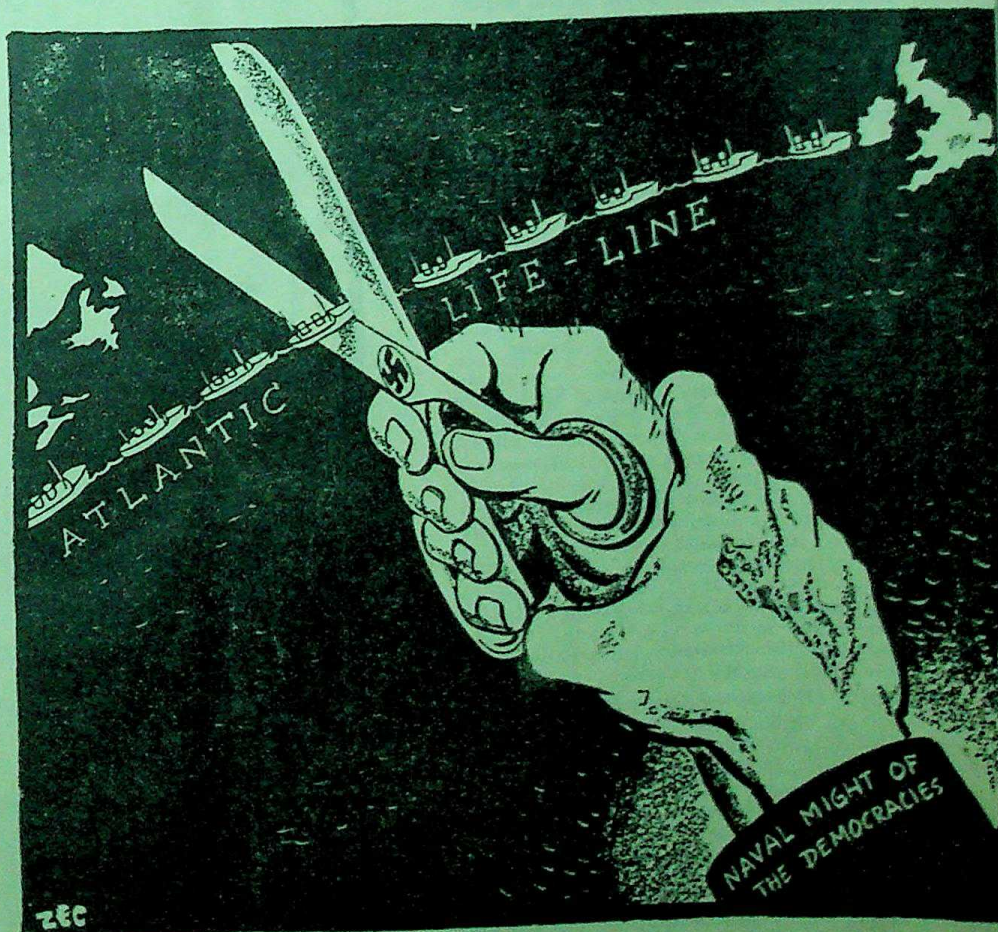
The time allowed for rectification of under-insurance of factories under the War Risks (Factories) Insurance Scheme was further extended till August 15, 1942. Applications for increased cover due to

undervaluation of the insurance originally effected were required to be made on the form for supplementary policies on or before August 15, 1942.

**Goods** An Ordinance amending the War Risks (Goods) Insurance Ordinance was promulgated on July 27, 1942, with the object of enabling the Government of India to undertake insurance against War Risks of Goods situated in such Indian States and French Establishments in India as enact a law requiring sellers of goods in their territories to insure against War Risks with the Government of India.

The amending Ordinance further provides that goods insured under the Ordinance will remain covered while in transit from a place in which they are insurable to another such place, so long as they remain situated in India.

In other words, goods despatched from one place in British India or in the French Establishments in India or in an Indian State which is participating in the Scheme to another such place will not lose cover merely because in the course of transit they happen to pass through an Indian State which is not a participating State, provided they do not leave the boundaries of India.



NO, YOU DON'T!



# COMMERCE-INDUSTRY-FINANCE

## ACTIVITIES OF UNITED KINGDOM COMMERCIAL CORPORATION IN INDIA

A variety of criticisms has lately appeared in the Press, and has been directly addressed to the Government of India regarding the activities of the United Kingdom Commercial Corporation, particularly in their bearing on the position of Indian trade and commerce during and after the war. Stress is laid by critics of the organisation on its semi-governmental character which, in their opinion, puts the Corporation in a position to secure exclusive privileges and concessions, and it is asserted that by virtue of this special position the Corporation has acquired a monopoly of India's export trade to particular countries, or in particular commodities, to the detriment of Indian exporters; that it is normally accorded railway and shipping priorities; that it is able to purchase goods for export at specially low prices through the agency of the purchasing organisation of the Supply Department; and, finally, that with its unlimited resources the Corporation conducts its operations on a scale and in a manner which create for the private exporter unfair conditions of competition.

It is true that the United Kingdom Commercial Corporation has a capital which has been subscribed by the British Treasury, and that in matters of broad policy it is subject to consultation with His Majesty's Government. But to suggest, as one journal devoted to Commerce and Industry has done, that one may discern in this organisation a resurrected East India Company enjoying "almost monopolistic privileges in the matter of India's export trade" is wholly without substance.

### Origin Of Corporation

The Corporation owes its origin, not to a resurgence of the spirit of commercial adventure or of economic domination, but to the exigencies of the war: it has been established for the purpose of undertaking, in connection with the conduct of trade in war conditions, certain operations which cannot be performed adequately by normal commercial enterprise or which lie beyond the scope of private trading concerns.

Broadly speaking, these operations consist in establishing trade links with countries with which the contact maintained through the medium of the normal machinery of import and export trade has snapped under the strain of war conditions; in satisfying the import requirements of Allied and friendly countries mainly from Empire sources; and in assisting in the disposal of the commodity surpluses which have accumulated in those countries owing to their normal export markets being no longer accessible. In these operations the Corporation uses the customary trade channels to the fullest possible extent.

### Supply Of Essential Commodities

In India, the Corporation's main activity is in connection with the supply of essential commodities to Russia. Trade with Russia in present conditions calls for careful and elaborate planning in regard to the provision of special transport arrangements, the distribution of the available carrying capacity between commodities with competing priority claims and the regulation of traffic in order to prevent congestion on important lines of communication.

It is plain that operations of this character, so remote from the normal activities of a private trading concern, can be successfully undertaken only by an organisation specially equipped to handle them, more particularly because, until Russia's entry into the war, there existed no established trade channel by which supplies from India could enter that country. This important role is filled by the United Kingdom Commercial Corporation; and through the machinery which it provides, it has become possible to maintain a steady and continuous flow of essential war materials at the highest possible level from India to Russia.

The Corporation purchases many of its requirements on the open market, or, as in the case of shellac, through a centralised buying agency unconnected with the Supply Department, which, in turn, operates on the open market; and purchases are distributed fairly among all exporters, including in particular Indian concerns established in the trade. These purchases are paid for

on an f.o.b. or f.o.r. basis, with the result that Indian exporters, besides being given an opportunity of taking their full part in the supply of essential goods to Russia, are enabled to take advantage of a profitable market without incurring the risks and uncertainties attending the arrangements for finance, credits, freight, insurance, etc.

In regard to trade with Persia, the Corporation enjoys no such monopoly, and the only privilege it possesses is that of trading in a limited number of commodities of essential war importance. The commodities in question are hides, tanning materials, and lorry tyres and tubes. These are required for purely war purposes, and canalisation of trade through the Corporation not only ensures speed and promptitude in the matter of supply but makes it possible for control to be efficiently exercised in India over the volume and quality of goods exported with reference to India's own supply position. The trade in these goods constitutes less than 10 per cent of the total trade with Persia, and in regard to lorry tyres and tubes, it is to be noted further that this is a trade involving no Indian interests.

Two other commodities are frequently mentioned as coming within the monopolistic





# COMMERCE-INDUSTRY-FINANCE

sphere of the Corporation, namely, wheat and sugar. The position in regard to these is briefly as follows:—

## Wheat

In the abnormal conditions which prevailed last year, it became a matter of paramount importance to provide Persia and other Middle East countries with wheat and other foodstuffs. Supplies required for this purpose and for the provisioning of Middle East countries in general were drawn from different countries, and, in the interests of efficient handling and distribution, responsibility for arrangements for acquisition and supply was centralised at the request of the Ministry of Food in the U. K. C. C. which was specially equipped to perform that task. There had been no previous exports of wheat from this country to Persia and consequently no organised machinery to deal with such exports. There was considerable advantage in the circumstances in permitting the Corporation to arrange for the export of the quantities which India was in a position to release for the satisfaction of Persian requirements and the prevention of famine on the borders of India. Since then the supply position in this country has radically altered, and there have been no purchases of wheat by the Corporation in India since November last.

## Indian Sugar

Contrary to popular belief, the Corporation as a trading concern has no monopoly of the export trade in Indian sugar. The position is that, in relaxation of the provisions of the International Sugar Agreement, India has been permitted to sell to His Majesty's Government any quantity of sugar not exceeding a certain maximum for purposes of export abroad. Persia, among other countries, has been supplied by sea from the relatively small purchases of Indian sugar so made in this country and from stocks of Java sugar built up on account of the Iranian Government. Imports of Indian sugar for a time also reached Persia by the overland route, but, as these were uncontrolled, they tended to interfere with the arrangements for the distribution of sugar within the country.

At the same time, the growing shortage of sugar in India rendered necessary a limitation of exports by land, and it was felt that the most convenient way of bringing the overland traffic under effective control would be to canalise it through the same agency as was responsible for handling exports by sea.

Under this arrangement exports by land will also be from sugar sold by the Sugar Controller to the Ministry of Food, and a quota has been fixed representing but a fraction of the quantity for which applications have been received for export on private account. The only connexion of the U. K. C. C. with such exports is that it may be required to act as transport agents for the Ministry, but it will in no way be responsible for the purchase of Indian sugar for export.

No exports have yet taken place under this procedure, and there is no foundation for the statement that the Corporation (or the Ministry of Food) has been buying sugar at Rs. 12 per maund in India and selling it at Rs. 37 a maund in Persia. In the case of all commodities which they handle they retain no more than a reasonable margin to cover expenses and payment for services, and it is to be presumed that the high prices at which sugar is reported to be sold in Persia are the resultant of a number

of local factors, such as customs duty, internal taxes, middleman's profits, etc.

It is commonly asserted that the Corporation has secured a monopoly of the export trade in certain important commodities, chief of them being rice, other food-grains, flour, oils and oilseeds and cotton yarn. How far this is a correct statement of the position may be judged from the following facts:—

## Rice, other food-grains and flour:

At the request of the Saudi Arabian Government the Corporation was instrumental in effecting shipments of rice to Saudi Arabia on two occasions. The rice was purchased on f. o. b. terms and export licences were taken out by the shippers, who sold the goods to the Corporation, in their own names. Except for these two transactions and one relating to a shipment of Burma rice to Ceylon on behalf of a London owner, the Corporation has taken no part in the export of any of these goods to any destination.

**Oils and oilseeds:** Export of oils and oilseeds is not now permitted to Middle East countries, as these countries are relatively self-sufficient in the matter of vegetable oils, and the available shipping space is required for moving goods in more urgent demand. It is true that, when the prohibition on the use of space for the carriage of oils and oilseeds was first notified, an exception was made in the case of shipments by the Corporation. This was a mistake and was withdrawn by the authorities concerned as soon as the error was pointed out. The exemption in favour of the Corporation was in fact entirely otiose, since no advantage under it was given or claimed.

**Yarn:** The Corporation undertook the shipment of two small consignments of cotton yarn, one to Syria and one to Palestine, at the request of the Governments concerned. Apart from this ephemeral intrusion into the trade, the Corporation has not participated at any time in the yarn trade of this country. That the quantity shipped by the Corporation came to less than 5 per cent of the total annual exports from India requires to be emphasized, for it is a

measure of the alleged monopolisation of the trade by the Corporation.

## Transport

In the sphere of transport, where again the Corporation is represented to be the recipient of exclusive concessions, no priorities are accorded to the Corporation except for the movement of war supplies; and such priorities are normally available to any exporter of similar supplies. Much has been said of the supposed preferential treatment given to the Corporation's consignments at Nok-kundi. It is, perhaps, a sufficient refutation of this charge to point out that goods in respect of which priority of despatch was granted were essential war materials on their way to Russia.

Perhaps on no other aspect of the Corporation's relations with Government is there so much misunderstanding as on the use being made by the Corporation of the Supply Department machinery for the procurement of supplies. Purchase through Supply Department is limited to commodities which are controlled and therefore in short supply, or in the procurement of which Supply Department are themselves interested, the object in either case being the avoidance of competitive buying which would react adversely on the prospects of Supply Department obtaining their own requirements in the requisite quantities or at satisfactory prices. Where such purchases are for the purpose of ordinary civil trade, however valuable that trade may indirectly be in a military sense, the Corporation is not granted any price advantage not available to commercial houses in India. That is to say, all such purchases are made at the best rates obtainable outside the special Supply Department's contracts and are not lumped together with Supply Department purchases on these contracts.

There remains the criticism that the Corporation's capacity for undertaking large-scale operations and for offering specially attractive terms to its suppliers by reason of its unlimited resources gives it an unfair advantage over private exporters. This criticism would be valid were it not for the fact that the Corporation, when it buys in the open market, does so not from producers

[ CONTINUED ON PAGE 193 ]

## INCREASE IN INDIA'S TRADE WITH THE BRITISH EMPIRE

**A**n increase in India's export and import trade with the British Empire was recorded in 1940-41.

The export trade with the British Empire as a whole increased from 56 to 61 per cent, notwithstanding decreases in the shares of the United Kingdom and Canada. The increase was mainly due to the larger volume of exports to Ceylon, Burma and Australia.

Imports from the British Empire accounted for 57 per cent of the total import trade as against 56 per cent in the preceding year. While imports from the United Kingdom declined, those from the Straits Settlements, Ceylon, South Africa, East Africa, Australia and Canada showed improvement.

India's imports from the United Kingdom fell by Rs. 5.65 lakhs or 14 per cent and the exports to the United Kingdom by Rs. 10.09 lakhs or 13 per cent.

The principal commodities imported from the United Kingdom were machinery and millwork, metals and ores, chiefly iron and steel, chemicals, cotton manufactures and instruments. The principal commodities exported were, as usual, tea, jute, seeds, hides and skins, raw cotton, metals and ores, raw wool, oil-cakes and food grains.

India's exports of cotton piecegoods to Burma and Ceylon showed marked improvement. There was also an increase in the export of cotton twist and yarn to Burma; rice not in the husk to Ceylon; and gunny bags and linseed to Australia.

On the import side, more oils came from the Straits Settlements, more copra from Ceylon, more raw cotton from East Africa, more raw wool, provisions and liquors from Australia, and more omnibuses, motor vehicles, paper and paste-board from Canada.



# BRITAIN DIGS FOR VICTORY

The first thing noticed by a visitor to peace-time England was the rich green pasture covering mile after mile of rolling fields. The train from Southampton or Plymouth or Liverpool to London passed banks on either side of the railway brightly carpeted with green. In Spring primroses and bluebells pushed their heads through the grass.

The scene is different now. Those green fields have changed to brown—the rich brown earth of England. Hundreds of thousands of acres of that lush, green grass have been ploughed up. Miles of those bright railway embankments have turned into miniature gardens.

The green fields of Britain have become part of Britain's front line battle against Hitler's blockade. He has tried bombing Britain, has probably thought many times of invading her shores, but there's one onslaught in which there has been no respite since the day war began. Hitler's prowling bombers and submarines have never ceased to haunt the sea approaches to Britain in their hunt for her richly laden convoys.

There are over 40,000,000 men, women and children in the British Isles to be fed. A substantial proportion of their food must be brought from overseas.

## Achieved Wonders

An overwhelmingly large proportion of ships bound for these shores reach port and unload safely, but every fresh extension of the war means still heavier demands on shipping. The more self-supporting Britain can be made in respect of food, the more of those ships are free to transport men and materials to vital theatres of war.

So Britain digs for victory! She is digging and ploughing and sowing as never before. Already farmers and gardeners have achieved wonders and this year they plan to break still further records.

British farmers and gardeners last year produced more food than in any previous year. Mr. Robert Hudson, Minister of Agriculture, has made plans to enable them to produce still more this year.

There are to be thousands more acres of sugar-beet. It is hoped to double the pre-war potato crop. Britain is going to have more sheep and beef cattle, and the milk yield is to be raised by hundreds of thousands of gallons.

## Women's Land Army

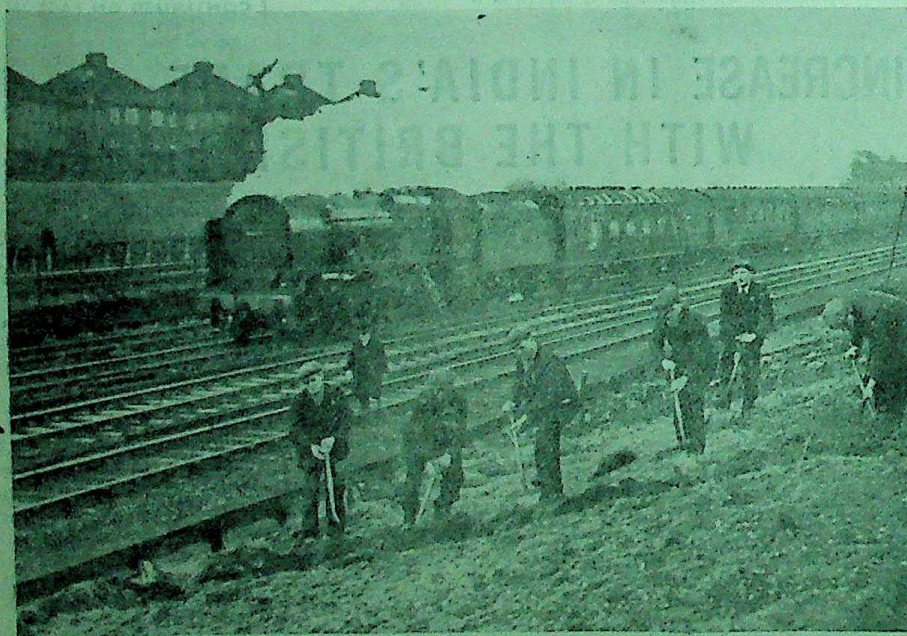
By the time the present ploughing programme is completed nearly 6,000,000 acres will have been added to the total area of arable land since the war began. Already the production of cereals and straw has been increased by 50 per cent.

Thousands of farm-hands have been called up for active service. Their place has been taken by a volunteer band of sturdy young women—Britain's Women's Land Army—which now totals 21,000. Their numbers are increasing every day, and already there are 5,000 more of them at work than during the last war.

Numbers of Italian prisoners, captured in the African campaigns, are assisting with farm work. Five thousand of these men are now at work on Britain's farms, and soon still more of them will be employed in this way.



Peace-time Britain's rolling fields of green pasture have now been ploughed up to grow food. This girl helps to prepare the land for new crops



Members of Britain's Railway Staffs are using their spare time to turn this waste land adjoining the railway line into fruitful vegetable gardens



There's another side of this story which concerns the gardeners—millions of them in cities and towns and villages throughout the country.

Nearly every house in England has a garden. In peace-time these are gay with flowers, usually around a green lawn. Half those lawns, and most of the flowers have gone now. Carnations have given way to cabbages, chrysanthemums to cauliflowers. Where primroses raised their bright yellow heads, peas and potatoes now flourish in neat rows.

#### Allotments

But besides cultivating the gardens at their own homes, Britain's business men, Britain's city clerks, shop assistants and Civil Servants are helping to feed themselves and their families and their friends by growing vegetables on extra plots called allotments.

Each allotment is about large enough to give one man all he can manage in the way of digging and planting in his spare time. They are probably each about 30 feet wide and 90 feet long, and properly tended they can provide enough potatoes and green vegetables to last a family of two or three people all through the year.

#### Little Gardeners

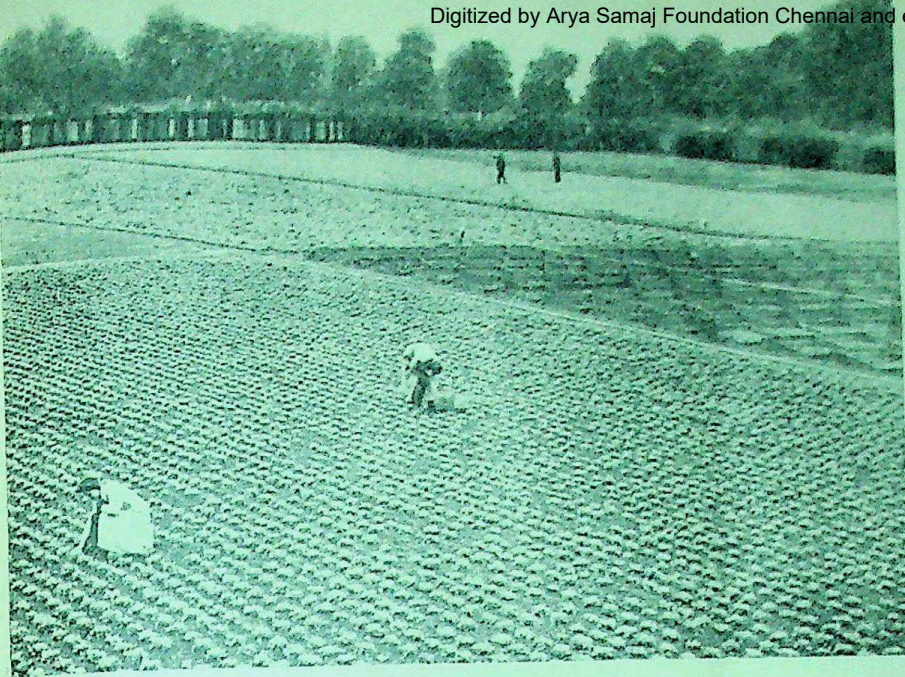
Before the war there were about 1,000,000 allotments in Britain. Already 600,000 new allotments are under cultivation and with all the odd little corners of ground and extra bits of garden that have recently been dug up, the original acreage of these small vegetable plots is at least doubled by now.

It was reckoned that Britain's "Little Gardeners" produced pretty well £30,000,000 worth of vegetables in their spare time efforts last year. That is a considerable achievement when you come to consider that these men have taken on this vegetable-growing as a hobby. They have all a job to do in the daytime, and most of their gardening is done at week-ends.

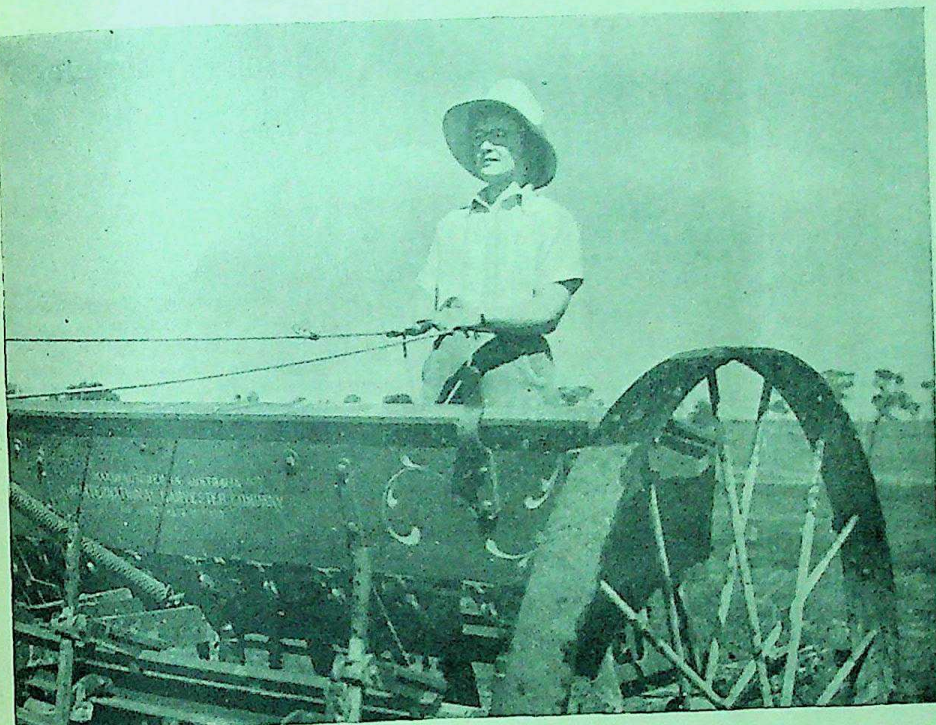
### U. K. COMMERCIAL CORPORATION

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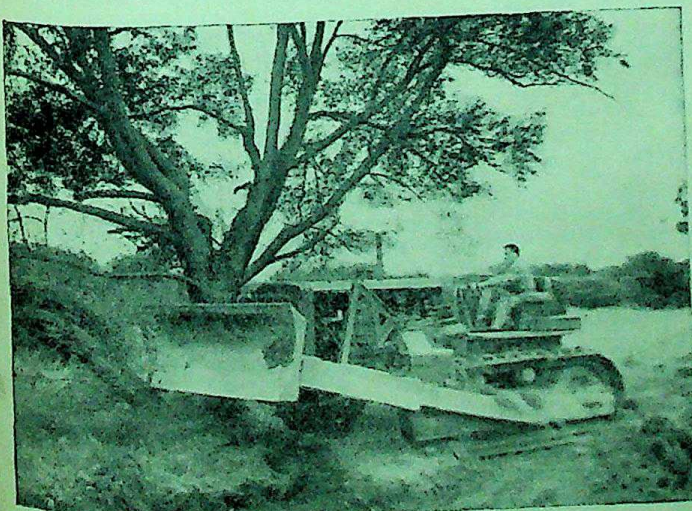
or middlemen direct but through exporters normally engaged in the trade. It is one of the special objectives of the Corporation to ensure that the benefit of all export business handled by it is passed on in the fullest possible measure to established exporters, and in the conduct of its business no one could have displayed more scrupulous regard than has the Corporation's representation in India for the assurance given two years ago by Lord Simon that "it is intended not that the Company should supplant existing channels of trade, but on the contrary that it should make use of them to the fullest possible extent."



A BIG CABBAGE PATCH IN A VEGETABLE GARDEN IN BRITAIN



At the farm—Helen McGregor who ploughs the fields is one of the 21,000 young women who have joined Britain's Women's Land Army



A giant bulldozer caterpillar helps to clean land which was once derelict but is now safely drained and ready for cultivation



Bulbs grown in the Fens are now exported to countries which, before the war, obtained them from Holland



# EDUCATION—HEALTH—LANDS

## INDO-EUROPEAN TRADE LINK BEFORE THE TIME OF ALEXANDER

**B**eads recovered from the archaeological site at Taxila (near Rawalpindi, the Punjab) have provided proof of a trade connexion between Europe and Asia before the time of Alexander, when typical European beads from settlements dating as far back as the 5th century B.C. were imported into India.

Mr. Horace C. Beck, the well-known expert on beads, has recorded in a monograph (published as Memoir No. 65 of the Archaeological Survey of India) the results of the examination of about 950 selected beads dating from about 700 B.C. to 500 A.D., which were recovered from excavations at Taxila by Sir John Marshall for over two decades.

### Factory Of Beads

Beads are among the commonest objects found in any ancient Indian site, but for that reason they are among the most difficult antiquities to date except by experts. They are very common in the sites of the Indus civilisation, and a regular factory of beads showing every stage from the raw material to the finished product, together with steatite drills employed in perforating

them, was discovered by Dr. E. J. H. Mackay in the American Society's excavations at Chanhudaro in the Nawabshah District of Sind.

One of the most characteristic Indian beads is the etched carnelian bead, the technique of which has, strangely enough, come down from the days of the Indus Valley civilisation to our own.

### Symbolic Beads

Mr. Beck has also found about half a dozen beads from Taxila which appear to belong to an altogether earlier civilisation. Among other interesting types of beads are those representing animals, birds and forms of human life. These are undoubtedly associated with some symbolism and were probably used as amulets.

A number of glass beads from the Bhir Mound, the earliest site at Taxila, has been found to connect with early Mediterranean culture, being similar to finds recovered in Corsica, Sardinia, and the Etruscan tombs in Italy. The study of glass beads from the Sirkap site, which dates from 200 B.C. to 100 A.D. has, on the other hand, revealed some influence of the Roman Empire.

## RIVER CONTROL AND SILT PREVENTION

**R**iver behaviour, its training and control, prevention of silt accumulation in rivers and canals, and soil mechanics were some of the subjects discussed at the annual meeting of the Research Committee of the Central Board of Irrigation, just concluded at Simla.

The knowledge of river "meanders" provides a key to many problems of river control. Fixing the river course at one place has effect on the position of the river both upstream and downstream. The merits of the various types of spurs, for example, the "hockey stick" type and T-head type, were discussed.

Methods of sampling suspended silt and bed sand were examined with special reference to the silting of reservoirs. New light was thrown on the problem of canal embankments in the course of discussions on soil mechanics. As the result of recent researches earthen embankments, once considered easy but sometimes resulting in inexplicable failures, will henceforth be designed on a scientific basis. New methods of taking accurate canal discharge measurements were also considered.

### Work Of Research Stations

Research problems tackled at the various centres were revealed in the course of a review of their reports. It was reported that the new Approach Channel on the Sukkur Barrage, designed at the Central Irrigation and Hydrodynamic Research Station, Poona, for the exclusion of sand from the Right Bank Canals, had given very satisfactory results during last year's flood season. In 1938 the future of the Right Bank Canals was in jeopardy; as a result of constructing Approach Channel the menace has been removed. The Land Reclamation

section of the Punjab Irrigation Research Institute has increased its activities to reclaim more land for the "grow more food" campaign. Successful model experiments in connection with canal regulators and distributory heads, for controlling silt entry into channels, were carried out by the research stations of Sind and United Provinces. In the Deccan, the demand for canal water exceed the available supply in the storage reservoir. The possibility of further supplies from rivers have been investigated by the Poona Irrigation and Research Division.

### LOCUST MENACE IN N.-W. INDIA

Locust swarms continued to roam over almost the whole of Rajputana and Central Indian States, invading some new areas in the east and south-east, viz., Etawah and Jhansi districts of the United Provinces, and Gwalior State, during the first fortnight of July.

Good rainfall having been received over extensive areas in north-west India, the soil was suitable for oviposition and the swarms settled and oviposited over extensive tracts, particularly in certain parts of Bikaner, Jodhpur, Jaipur, Alwar, Bharatpur and Dholpur States and Rewari tehsil of the Punjab and Tharparkar district of Sind. Hoppers of gregarious phase were observed over large tracts.

Rainfall being favourable, it is feared that there will be intensive locust breeding in several parts of Rajputana and Sind. Some amount of breeding has also been observed in the interior of Baluchistan. Intensive control work is essential to save the *kharij* crops in north-west India.

## SUBSTITUTE FOR CARNAUBA WAX

The discovery of a substitute for Carnauba wax from indigenous materials is announced by the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, in a leaflet just published.

Carnauba wax, obtained from the leaves of "wax palm" grown in Brazil, was previously imported. It is the basic raw material for the manufacture of shoe creams, polishing waxes, carbon papers, etc. Owing to shipping difficulties, it became scarce and at the request of a carbon paper manufacturer the Institute made a search for a substitute. This has resulted in a preparation from indigenous materials (shellac wax, bees wax and "sal dammar") which satisfies all the specifications laid for Carnauba wax.

## FALL IN SOLAR ACTIVITY

There were two days in 1941 on which the sun's disc was free from spots, according to the report of the Kodaikanal Observatory for that year.

Research work on sun spots etc. was continued. The Direct Reading Spectrophotometer, built in 1940, was improved by replacing the single tube amplifier by a balanced circuit. Preliminary observations were made with this instrument on the intensity of radiation from sun spots relative to the surrounding photosphere. These have shown that the character of the radiation from a sun spot is independent of its position on the disc.

The theoretical study on the motion of gases in the sun's atmosphere and the experimental work on Zeeman-effect were continued. The occurrence of highly stripped atoms of iron, nickel, cobalt, etc. in the corona has been investigated on the basis of the results of the dynamical study of the solar envelope. The conclusions so far reached indicate that these atoms probably originate in the interior of the sun at a depth of about 25,000 km. or more.

In 1941 a further fall in solar activity was indicated by several solar phenomena such as sun spots, prominences and hydrogen absorption markings. Observing conditions were slightly less favourable than in 1940.

Photographs of the sun in ordinary light were obtained on 322 days while spectroheliograms in calcium and hydrogen light were secured on 302 days and 262 days respectively. Under the existing scheme of co-operation among observatories, 63 photographs were obtained from observatories in England and America and 302 calcium disc spectroheliograms were sent from this observatory to the Solar Physics Observatory, Cambridge.

## EDUCATION EXPENSES OF EVACUEE PUPILS

The attention of the Government has been called to a statement by the General Secretary of the Congress to the effect that the Government of India has announced its decision to defray the education expenses of every evacuee pupil above the age of eight for a period of five years. There is no authority and foundation for this wholly incorrect statement.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1941



# EDUCATION—HEALTH—LANDS

## MANUFACTURE OF VEGETABLE INSECTICIDES

The discovery of several useful vegetable insecticides and the possibilities of their manufacture in India are revealed in a leaflet (No. 26) published by the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun.

To control agricultural as well as household pests vegetable insecticides are preferred to others such as lead and copper salts, arsenic and nicotine, because they are non-poisonous to man and animals.

The growing demand for vegetable insecticides was hitherto met mainly by a plant called "derris" from Malaya, the Dutch East Indies and the Philippines. Investigations conducted by the Forest Research Institute have now shown that other plants bearing the same toxic content as "derris" are available in this country; and the existing material is rich enough for the preparation of effective insecticidal emulsions and powders. Their toxic content is capable of still further improvement by proper cultivation and treatment.

Certain parts of India, it has been found, possess suitable climatic and soil conditions for the introduction and cultivation of richer varieties of Malayan "derris." Experiments in this direction have already proved successful in Mysore, Cochin and Assam.

## INDIAN LAC CESS COMMITTEE

Mr. P. M. Kharegat, Vice-Chairman of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, presided over a meeting of the Governing Body of the Indian Lac Cess Committee at Calcutta on July 27 and 28, 1942; and Dr. Sir S. S. Bhatnagar, Director, Board of Scientific and Industrial Research, presided over the meeting of the Advisory Board of the Committee held at the same place on July 24 and 25, 1942.

The progress of research work at the two centres of research, namely, Namkum and London, was reviewed.

In view of the importance of experiments in biological control of predators of the lac insects being carried out by the Indian Lac Research Institute at Namkum for the last few years, the question of their continuance beyond the period of existing sanction was considered.

The Committee also considered proposals for effectively demonstrating, independently or in co-operation with small and big factories, the improved methods of manufacturing seedlac, shellac and garnet lac, which have been developed at the Namkum Institute, with a view to their eventual adoption on a large scale.

## RESEARCH DEGREES

The Calcutta University has accepted the recommendation made to all Indian Universities by the Inter-University Board (in their last meeting held in January 1942) that students conducting research work for the requisite period under the supervision of the Keeper of the Records of the Government of India be permitted, if otherwise eligible, to submit dissertations for Ph.D. and other Postgraduate research degrees.



**Blessing the crops**—Roman Catholic cultivators near Bombay set apart a day for their priest to bless the harvest before it is reaped. After the blessing, the priest cuts the first sheaves and distributes them to those present

## THE CENTRAL FOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL

In pursuance of a recommendation of the Food Production Conference held in April, 1942, the Government of India have decided to constitute a Central Food Advisory Council, consisting of:

The Hon'ble Member in charge of the Education, Health and Lands Department, Chairman; a representative of the Education, Health and Lands Department; a representative of the Finance Department; a representative of the Commerce Department; a representative of the Communications Department; the Director of Foodstuffs; the Vice-Chairman, Imperial Council of Agricultural Research; the Agricultural Commissioner with the Government of India; the Animal Husbandry Commissioner with the Government of India; the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India; the Economic Adviser to the Government of India; the Wheat Commissioner for India; the Civil Supplies Commissioner of India; the President, Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry; the President of the Federation of the Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry; Dewan Bahadur Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya, K.B.E.; Sardar Bahadur Sir Datar Singh; Prof. N. G. Ranga, M.L.A.; Khan Bahadur Mohammad Abdul Momin, C.I.E.; Mr. Ivor Bull, Consolidated Coffee Estate, Pollibepa, Coorg; and Mr. Probha Nath Singh Roy, O.B.E.

### Council's Functions

The functions of the Council would be—

- (i) to pool, study and disseminate all available information regarding food and fodder production;
- (ii) to plan on an all-India basis the food and fodder production programme for the different regions

and tender advice in regard to its execution; and

- (iii) to advise the authorities responsible about the equitable distribution of the available food stocks.

The representative of the Education, Health and Lands Department on the Council will act as its Member-Secretary. He will be assisted by a whole-time Technical Secretary who will do the detailed secretarial work. Mr. N. G. Abhyankar, M.Sc. (London) has been appointed to this post.

## RESTRICTION ON WHEAT EXPORT

The Wheat Commissioner for India feels that it might be of interest to the wheat trade and to the public in general to note that export permits have been issued for approximately 400,000 tons of wheat and 70,000 tons of wheat products from the main producing areas to various consuming centres. In view of the quantities of wheat offered for transportation being in excess of the wagon facilities available, an accumulation of stocks has occurred on a large number of railway stations in the surplus wheat producing districts of the Punjab and other areas. In view of the existing circumstances, it has been decided that, for the time being, no further permits will be issued for the export of wheat from any of these producing areas, while exports of wheat products from the same area will be drastically restricted. A review of the supply position will be made, after the present congestion is relieved, in the light of the conditions then existing.



# GOVERNMENT DOING ALL POSSIBLE TO REDUCE CIVILIANS' WARTIME HARDSHIPS

In their Resolution of July 10, 1942, the Congress Working Committee have referred to various complaints arising from war conditions and the steps that the civil and military authorities have considered it essential to take to meet the present threat of hostile aggression. That certain hardships must, in these circumstances, fall upon the civil population is unfortunately inevitable; nor is this a position that is confined to India.

It is also probably true that instances have occurred in which some avoidable hardship has been caused. It has always been the policy of the Government of India, however, to reduce inconvenience to the public to the minimum. Nevertheless, advantage has been taken of the position to exploit for political purposes the inevitable hardships arising from the necessary preparation of defence against aggression and to incite people to defy the orders of Government, a course, which if persisted in, must inevitably bring the authors into conflict with the law.

## In The Provinces

The Government of India have for some time been in close touch with Provincial Governments. The reports received show that Provincial Governments are doing all that is possible both to reduce hardships to the minimum and also to remedy promptly any genuine grievances that may exist. The criteria for the assessment of compensation enumerated in the Congress Working Committee's Resolution are recognised both in law and practice, and the reports of Provincial Governments show that they are fully alive to the importance of the following principles:—

- (i) Compensation should be paid on the spot and promptly.
- (ii) Compensation should be on as generous a scale as possible and shall take into account the inconvenience caused in addition to the actual value of the property.
- (iii) Whenever a building or land has to be requisitioned or evacuated, the military authorities should approach the civil authorities first except in very special or urgent circumstances.
- (iv) The longest possible notice of requisitioning or evacuation should be given.
- (v) Evacuation and requisitioning should be under the personal supervision of the Collector.
- (vi) Wherever there is likely to be delay in valuation or payment adequate advances should be given.
- (vii) Where evacuation is necessary, funds should be placed at the disposal of Collectors for the immediate relief of those evacuated, especially the aged and infirm, and they should make every effort to find employment for those evacuated and to provide temporary accommodation and alternative sites, lands and houses.
- (viii) When boats are requisitioned, care should be taken to see that

those required for essential purposes are exempted and, whenever possible, that temporary permits are issued.

- (ix) The procedure for assessing compensation should be made as short and businesslike as possible.
- (x) A special magistrate or officer of that status should be posted in each area, where requisitioning is necessary, to receive complaints, to assess and pay compensation, and to look after labour.

## Payment Procedure

In order, however, still further to simplify the procedure of payment and to meet any cases of hardship or delay caused by uncertainty of ownership or failure to reach agreement the Government of India have, after consideration of the Provincial Governments' reports, issued orders which delegate the fullest possible powers to Collectors of Districts and entirely supersede normal practice. In all cases where the Collector is or can be made the final authority for determining compensation (e.g., for the requisitioning of boats, bicycles, transport animals, etc.) he is authorised to draw funds from the Treasury without any further authorisation and to make payments on a simple receipt from the payee.

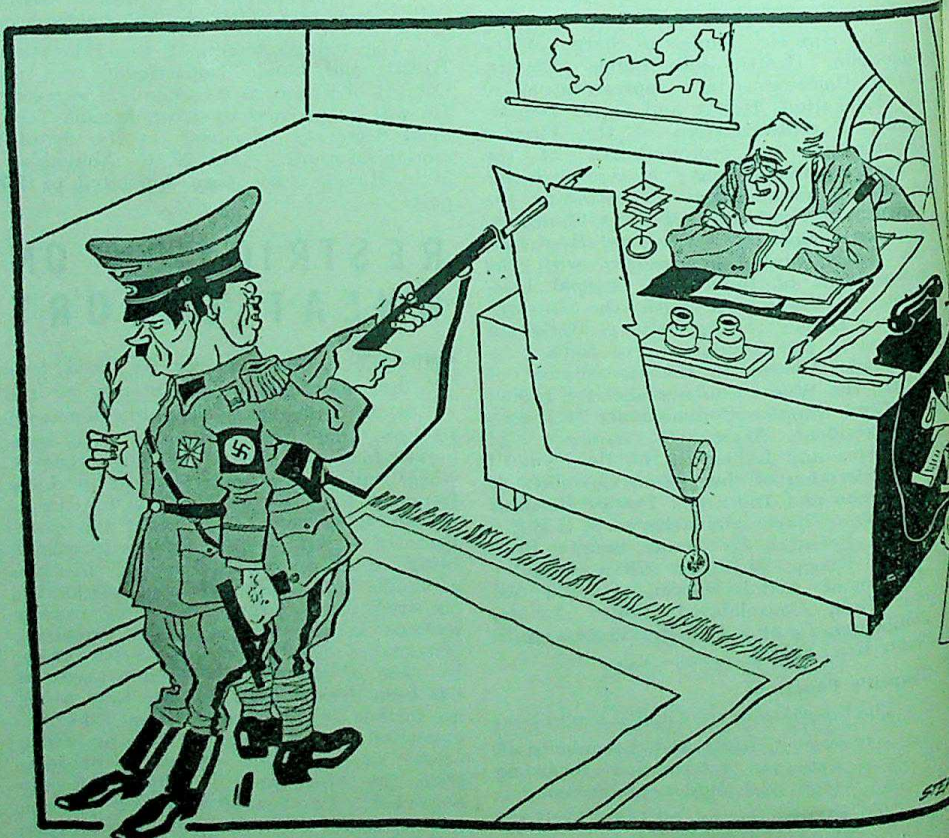
In those cases in which the Collector is not and cannot be made the final authority for determining compensation, that is, in

cases where immovable property is requisitioned or required, the Collector is now authorised to communicate an offer of what he considers a fair rate of compensation, and if the offer is accepted, to enter into an agreement with the person concerned, to draw the necessary funds on the Treasury without any further authorisation from accounting authorities, and to make payment on the spot.

## Advance Payment

Where delay is necessarily involved in assessing compensation or in reaching an agreement the Collector is further authorised to make an advance payment, in all cases in which the person or persons concerned are of small means, of up to 80 per cent of the amount which in his opinion is likely to be assessed as the ultimate sum of compensation. Where compensation is to take the form of recurring payments, the Collector, if he considers that some immediate payment is necessary to alleviate hardship, may pay a six months' instalment in advance. Instructions are also being issued to those concerned in the construction of aerodromes to offer employment on the works to the inhabitants of the areas requisitioned, in all cases where this has not already been done.

It is likely that much of the land requisitioned for purposes of Defence will not be required after the conclusion of hostilities, and the Government of India have decided that it should then be made available to the original owners, should they wish to resume possession. The best and



THE JAPANESE PEACE DELEGATION IN WASHINGTON



most convenient methods for arranging for such resumptions are now being examined, with a view to ensuring that all reasonable facilities for the re-acquisition of their property are accorded to the dispossessed.

### Military Necessity

The problems arising from the requisitioning or removal of country boats are obviously of particular complexity. On the one hand, military necessity requires that these important means of communication should not be left within reach of the enemy in threatened areas; and there is, of course, no doubt that they would be seized by the enemy, if he succeeded in invading the country, without paying any compensation whatever. On the other hand, it is fully realised that to deprive the owners of their use must cause considerable hardship. The areas in which such action has been found necessary are comparatively few in number; and in every case care has been taken to ensure that boats needed for essential agricultural purposes or communications have been exempted from the scope of the orders and wherever possible boats are admitted to the affected area under temporary permits. Every effort is also being made to find alternative employment for fishermen affected by these orders.

### Motor Vehicles, Cycles And Carts

The working of the orders regarding the requisitioning of motor vehicles, cycles and carts is also constantly watched, and any grievances brought to light receive the immediate attention of the authorities. Whenever a requisition has been made, compensation has been paid at generous rates and in the few cases in which there has been delay in the payment of compensation, exhaustive instructions have already been issued to prevent further delay.

In Madras it is reported that the amount of compensation assessed has not been disputed in any case. In Bombay the instructions issued have been characterised by the Press as "on the whole sound and satisfactory." In Bengal the problems are both larger and more difficult to tackle owing to its geographical position and the extent to which the people depend on communications by water. The local officials have been working under a great strain, but every attempt is being made to deal with the problems which have arisen on systematic principles and to remedy complaints that may have been due to the speed with which action had to be taken at the outset. As an example of what is being done, the Bengal Government have planned to institute a river steamer transport service in the area in which country boats have had to be removed.

### In Orissa And Assam

In Orissa since the advent of the monsoon, a considerable number of boats has been released so as to allow the ordinary life of the community to be carried on. In Assam such complaints as have arisen were mainly due to the necessity for immediate action by the military authorities, which in some cases had to be taken without consulting the civil authorities. In other provinces few, if any, specific complaints have come to light. Speaking generally, everything possible has been done to explain to the people the necessity for the action taken, and the degree of co-operation on the part of the public has, on the whole, been admirable.

It seems to the Government of India that the main difficulties of the public arise not from the limited measures for requisitioning or acquisition necessitated by war needs, but on account of the high prices, and occasional local scarcity of

essential commodities like wheat, sugar, salt and kerosene.

The restricted amount of transport available is one of the main features of the problem and must be accepted in this, as in many other countries, as one of the inevitable consequences of war; but the Government of India wish to assure the public that within the resources available to them every attempt is being made to make the best possible use of transport facilities to avoid local shortages of essential commodities, and they are prepared in certain cases to give civil requirements priority even over military needs. It is a regrettable fact, however, that much of the difficulty is due to hoarding. Government are determined to deal vigorously with this problem and with those who increase the sufferings of the people by withholding foodstuffs from circulation; but it is clear that official measures alone, without co-operation from all elements in the population, cannot be entirely effective. Those who criticise Government for the sufferings resulting from high prices and scarcity and who claim that they possess influence with the people would serve the public interest better if they would use that influence to prevent hoarding and similar malpractices.

One portion of the Congress Resolution refers to restrictions on organisation for self-protection and expresses the opinion that it is the inherent right of all to protect their own life and property and those of their neighbours. All citizens possess certain legal rights in the matter of private defence; nor, of course, has there been any interference whatever with those rights. There is also no ban on organisations for mutual defence as such.

Military drilling and the wearing of military or semi-military uniforms by non-official bodies have been prohibited for good and sufficient reasons; but, with these provisos, the Government of India have themselves recently recommended to Provincial Governments the encouragement of village defence parties and other organisations designed to afford protection to the community against the activities of unsocial elements. What the Government of India are not prepared to countenance is the formation of what have been called 'private armies' the ostensible purpose of which may be to afford protection to the community as a whole or particular sections of it, but whose real object is to usurp the Government's responsibility for the maintenance of law and order and to aim at the setting up of some kind of parallel administration. The determination of Government to adhere to that position in the public interest is reaffirmed.

### ASSURANCE TO LAND-OWNERS

It has been brought to the notice of the Government of India that owners and tenants of land which is requisitioned or acquired by Government under the Defence of India Rules for war purposes are anxious for an assurance that, if the land is subsequently relinquished by Government, their rights and interests will be recognised and so far as possible restored.

It is the policy of Government that when land is relinquished the original owners and tenants should be given "first refusal," and the Government of India are consulting Provincial Governments with a view to settling an appropriate procedure. Meanwhile owners and tenants of land taken over by Government can rest assured that every consideration will be given to their interests if Government later decide that they no longer required the land.

### REQUISITIONING OF PROPERTY IN SHOPS AND WAREHOUSES

In order to avoid delay and inconvenience in the matter of requisitioning, the Government of India, in exercise of the powers conferred by the Defence of India Act, have amended the Rule relating to requisitioning so as to provide for powers of entry into and search of any premises both before and after a requisitioning order has been issued. The places involved will be mainly shops and warehouses.

Hitherto the Rules relating to requisitioning did not give any power to authorise an officer serving a requisition order to inspect and search the premises of the person on whom he served the order, so as to prevent attempts to hide the property in question. There are other Rules giving such powers in respect of immovable property and in respect of, say, property about which a demand for information is issued, but it was considered desirable to have the requisitioning Rule amended so as to allow entry into and inspection of premises to find an article which is believed to be with a certain firm and has to be requisitioned.

The present amendment is designed to avoid the delay and inconvenience involved in magisterial proceedings. It mainly concerns the requisitioning of property in shops and warehouses and in no way infringes the liberties of the public.

## BAN ON COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA LIFTED

The Communist Party of India in their announcements and circulars to party members have recently indicated a change of front and, recognizing this war as a People's War, in which the Indian people must in their own interest make common cause with the united freedom-loving nations have decided, if permitted, to throw their energies into the task of co-operating with the existing war effort. According to their statement of policy, if the members of the Party are free to act they will devote all their energies to teaching the people what the war means and organizing them for self-defence and resistance to the enemy. The Government of India welcome this statement of their intentions and desire that full opportunity should be given to them of putting those intentions into practice. In order, therefore, that they may function legally as a Party the Government of India have decided

to remove the ban on the Communist Party of India and its organs "The National Front" and "The New Age."

The Government of India and Provincial Governments have already released from detention or restriction a number of individuals associated with the Communist Party who desire to assist in the war effort. They will continue, and as far as possible accelerate, this process in the light of the policy now adopted, dealing with each case on its merits and not excluding from review the cases of members of the Communist Party who, as such, have been convicted by Criminal Courts of offences not involving violence.

The Governments concerned are confident that those who are released will make use of their freedom by devoting themselves whole-heartedly to giving their fullest assistance in the war effort.



# SIR SULTAN AHMED'S STATEMENT ON THE CONGRESS RESOLUTION

**S**ir Sultan Ahmed, Law Member, Government of India, has made the following statement on the Congress resolution :

The Congress Resolution in so far as it draws from the inspiration that India must have her own peoples' government has indeed a mighty sanction. To that extent it represents the right of India, the goodwill of Britain, and the conscience of the world. In fact this aspect of the Indian issue has of late been deeply exercising the mind of the people of Britain, as a result of which their Government have been definitely committed to the goal of Indian independence. Cripps's proposals may have been withdrawn, but only in a superficial sense. The fundamentals underlying them cannot be withdrawn, and have again been expressly reaffirmed by His Majesty's Government through the Secretary of State.

## India And New World Order

The Congress Resolution ceases to be the voice of 400 millions where it proposes to lead the country to blank despair, chaos and anarchy at a time when the forces of diabolical reaction are at her very gates. The attitude that governs the 'Quit India' Resolution, the programme of 'open rebellion' that happens to have been chosen to work it out, and the fateful hour that seems to have been appointed for the release of this will to anarchy, have prevented all but perhaps the too keen members of the Congress from joining hands. No wonder that there is a growing universal belief in India and outside India that this road indicated by the Congress is not the one to fulfilment of the great desire of our country, but to a setback, too terrible to ponder over, too dangerous to go along. Surely, freedom for all peoples will be established in the coming order of the world, and in that order India must inevitably take her place.

It is not for mere idealism that India must practically come in line with the world of democracy. It is thus alone that she can attain her ideal. The Congress has chosen to take too immediate a view of her own issues and preoccupations. It does not wake up to the need of correlating our own with the world issues. But is this the time for isolation? And is this the time for such a costly blunder?

## A Warning

Inside the country, the Muslim League, the Depressed Classes, the Sikhs, the Christians, the Liberals and the Non-Party Leaders, and indeed even many who have high regard for Mr. Gandhi's personality, share the rather universal sense of disaster that lurks behind his 'Quit India' demand.

Outside the country, Britain, America and the United Nations feel deeply aggrieved at India's virtually becoming, against her will and interest, a source of weakness, embarrassment, and indeed impediment in their effort to fight humanity's battle for freedom and democracy. They are aggrieved, too, at the prospect of hampering the progress of India's full independence which, as a matter of course, should begin with the end of the war. I am sure that there are hesitating and doubting minds even amongst the Congress workers, at least amongst those who mean business and no romance.



THE HON'BLE SIR SULTAN AHMED

'Quit India' echoes back 'Enter Japan.' The malicious echo is heard on every enemy radio. This ill-chosen demand condemns itself inasmuch as it encourages the Axis Powers whom the Congress so much wants to throw off. And there can be no denying that the enemy is frantically encouraged. Its exultations should give an unmistakable warning of what may be in store for India if the Congress will not lead back the country to a safer realisation of the national objective. If nothing else, at least the wild glee that streams out of the Berlin, Rome and Tokyo radios should be convincing enough how hollow may be the kind of resistance that the Congress with its 'Quit India' slogan can hope to develop in the country.

## Appeal To Congressmen

The tragedy is all the more poignant when we realise the Congressmen's capacity for sacrifices, and I appeal to them not to commit this fatal stroke of hopelessly impractical political bravado, which is likely to involve the country into endless ruin, misery and civil war. The Resolution does great injustice firstly to the Congress's own record of achievements, secondly to the immediate future of China and India, thirdly to the Allied cause in general, and last but not least to Britain for all her work for the promotion of national consciousness in India.

Recent statements by the Congress leaders have shown that they feel that they cannot resist the aggression without the aid of British and American Forces. They would, therefore, allow military operations to be continued as at present by the Americans and the British from the Indian soil. The necessary implication of these statements is that while the British are asked to 'quit India' the British and the Americans should oblige India by maintaining their troops in India for resisting the aggression of the Axis Powers. This is neither logic nor common sense. It is argued that a free India will be better able to resist aggression than an unfree India. If however free India has to depend entirely for equipments, materials, and technical guidance on Britain and America, one fails to see how the Congress justifies her claims.

The so-called 'Quit India' Resolution defeats its own purpose. It affords room for ample misunderstandings and grievous calamities. No one more than the Mahatma himself would be willing to acknowledge his own error. He has committed many blunders in the past and has admitted that he has done so, and I wish he would for the sake of the truth of the situation once again ask himself before it is too late to look penetratingly into the Resolution as a whole. In this the All-India Congress Committee should also help him in the abiding interest of the country.

In fact the task of the All-India Congress Committee is of the gravest responsibility. They may clarify the national vision to rationalise our political demand and finally to hammer into shape the reality of independence which India looks forward to and which the United Nations are ready to co-operate with. Let the All-India Congress Committee have the right initiative and give a lead to the country. It must be a lead that will be universally followed up; it must be a lead to fill the country with wholesome optimism; it must be a lead to the Government to contribute to its success; and it will likewise be a lead to the aggressors to visualise that all aggression is weak inside and in the long run. The mental and material resources that would have been wasted in a futile mass civil disobedience would instead amount to so much asset to the Congress if these could be diverted to War services.

## "A Wonderful Opportunity"

There is also a wonderful opportunity for the vast majority of the population who are not in the Congress and who, I am sure, are opposed to this positively dangerous move of the Congress. They may let the Congress alone if the Congress will decline to listen to reason, mobilise their forces in support of law and order, and if they consider necessary, suggest immediate practical proposals giving Indians greater powers which may not only be the earnest for her securing the promised freedom immediately after the war but also stimulate the war efforts.

The duty of the Government is perfectly clear. They cannot stand against India's independence. They are honour bound to further it and they will do so. At the same time, hard pressed by the enemies of the type too well-known by now, the Government hardly have any spacious leisure to examine the whole question of the details of India's future Constitution, which without the agreements of major parties will remain full of complexities. They have and can have only one objective at present, and that is to win the war which will not only ensure the destruction of brute force for ever, but will also ensure for India the high place which she must occupy among the free nations of the world after the war. Anyone who stands in the way of the speedy and early realisation of that objective cannot in reality be a friend of India, and must be treated as such irrespective of consequences.

## IMPORT OF BURMA NOTES BANNED

The import of Burma notes into India has been prohibited with effect from August 1, except that refugees coming by the direct land routes from Burma are permitted after verification to bring in any Burma notes in their possession. The encashment of these notes will be governed by the instructions already issued. Passengers travelling by air from China will be allowed to bring in such notes till August 4, if they were not informed of the prohibition before they left China.





SIKH SOLDIERS SOMEWHERE IN THE WESTERN DESERT ENJOY A GAME OF CARROM

## PLEASE GIVE THE TROOPS YOUR BOOKS

In the lonely mountains of Iran and the dusty, hot plains of Iraq; from Shaiba in the South to Rutba in the West and Senna in the North there are numerous isolated detachments of Indian and British troops. They may be guarding vital points behind the front line or they may be "up front"—waiting.

If they are lucky they may have a river in which to swim for recreation or there may be some horses to ride. But there are no cinemas, no cafés, no reading rooms, no libraries out in the "blue."

A book in his native tongue means much to a soldier stationed in lonely Altun Kopru, for instance, or Samawa. A Tamil or Telugu paper is a godsend to a Madras soldier far from home at Sultanabad. An English magazine provides hours of happiness for British soldiers, perhaps at Khorramshah.

When there is little other recreation a man who may not be a great reader in ordinary life will gain untold pleasure from the simplest, oldest book. From all over India, such reading material is now being sent to Lady Tilda Ward, M.B.E., C.O. J. S. Tilley, Esq., Deputy Red Cross Commissioner, Town Hall, Bombay. But the need is great and the response will have to be greater if a sufficient supply to these lonely outposts is to be maintained.



LADY WAVELL TALKING TO A GUEST AT THE PARTY SHE GAVE TO WOUNDED SOLDIERS AT NEW DELHI



H. R. H. THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER, GENERAL SIR ARCHIBALD WAVELL AND LADY WAVELL AT THE PARTY

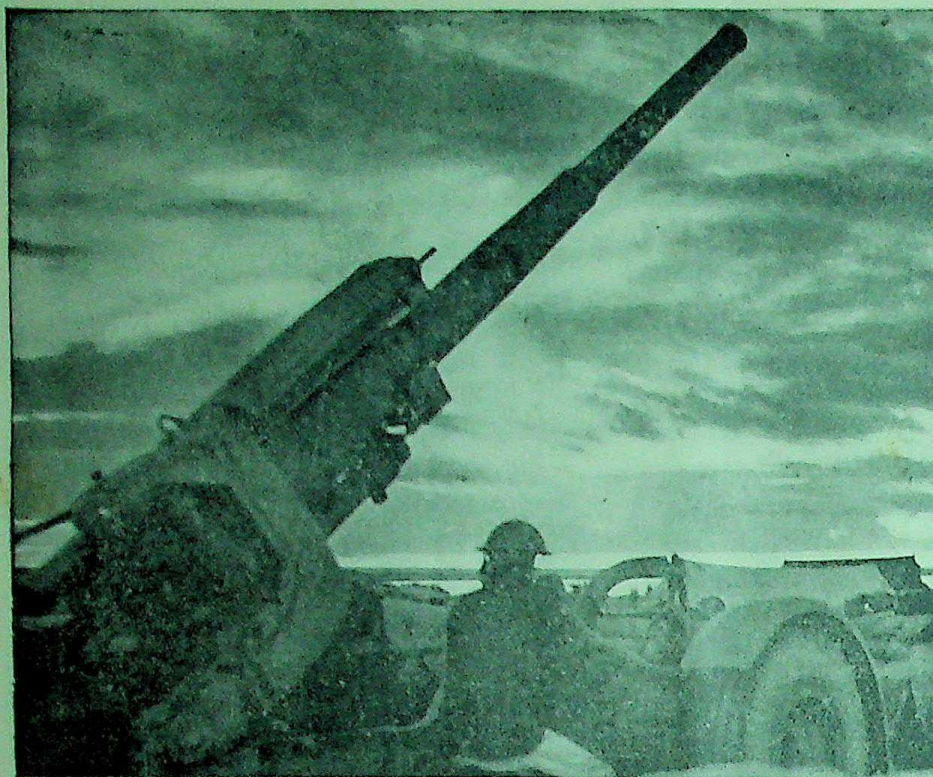
### ST. DUNSTAN'S FUND

The 62nd list of donations and remittances received up to June 30, 1942, brings the total of the St. Dunstan's Section of H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund to Rs. 7,66,423-10-0 plus 4263-2-1.

A donation has also been received for the St. Dunstan's Fund in the shape of

two Debentures of Messrs. Ford and Macdonald Ltd., Cawnpore, of the face value of Rs. 3,000 each, viz., Rs. 6,000 in all from Mr. E. M. Souter, C.I.E., of Cawnpore, through H. E. the Governor of the United Provinces. As far as it is ascertained at present there is no market for them and they have to be kept in the Fund.





HEAVY ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS MANNED BY INDIANS IN ACTION IN THE WESTERN DESERT

## MR. M. R. AHUJA ON INDIA'S MESSAGE TO CANADIANS

**M**r. M. R. Ahuja, Indian Government Trade Commissioner, Canada, recently broadcast the following message from Toronto to the people of Canada:

India in this hour of mortal peril, with the ruthless and treacherous enemy at her very doorsteps, is feverishly busy mobilising her vast resources in men and material. Her soldiers of all castes, creeds and religions who have already faced trials, privations and death, side by side with the brave and sturdy sons of Canada in this as in the last war, are for the first time, together standing guard on their own homes and hearths. From them and their people, I bring to you, men and women of this their mighty sister nation, whatever your rank or station, a message of enduring and everlasting friendship.

I bring to you also, India's acknowledgment of the deep debt of gratitude that we owe to you for the ever-increasing supplies of innumerable weapons of war that your sweat, labour and sacrifice are making it possible for us to receive in our hour of dire need, from your plants and factories.

### "Arsenal of Freedom"

The people of India, while thanking you most sincerely for your understanding and appreciation of their difficulties and their problems, would no doubt desire you to remember that every additional nail that you can produce and spare, will be another nail hammered deeply in the enemy's coffin. The people of India look with envious eyes but grateful hearts on the title of "Arsenal of Freedom" you have by your untiring and stupendous efforts, won for your country whose primary mainstay until only a few

years ago, was its great agricultural industry. Although we are doing everything possible to follow your footsteps and to take the road so worthily shown by you, we may not perhaps for some time to come, be able to achieve this proud distinction which you so richly deserve; but our country is already a reservoir of manpower and a huge arsenal of natural resources in the same cause.

Your mighty and gigantic effort as well as your keen sense of duty and resolution, has won you another title of which you may be equally proud, "The Aerodrome of Democracy." The will and determination of your workers, fired with enthusiasm and their love for liberty, has made it possible to enlarge rapidly and extend your ship-building industry to proportions where your country may as well be recognised also as the "Shipyard of the British Commonwealth of Nations."

### Message Of Faith

We, on our part have no doubt that with the help that is fast reaching us from all quarters including Canada, India's fair and vast fields shall soon be turned into a multitude of hangars and aerodromes from which the Canadian, American, British and Indian fliers shall take off in one team to give the last and the mortal blow to the enemy, shattering his dreams of world conquest to pieces. The Royal Indian Navy, although greatly strengthened and enlarged, may not as yet aspire to seize from you the blue ribbon tied around your huge shipyards, but we are determined to see to it, that the white ensign proudly fluttering side by side with the stars and stripes, as well as the red and the blue, shall churn the Indian Ocean into a huge graveyard of the enemy, drowning in its blue waters completely and for

ever, his bid for world empire. The battle of India is on, and her brave and chivalrous sons, the Moslem warriors, the unflinching Mahratta, the never-dying Rajput and the lion-hearted Sikhs who have never failed to answer the call of duty, worthily upholding the fighting traditions of the Indian Army, shall march to victory and to peace along with their comrades-in-arms in Canada as in the other United Nations. I bring to you, men and women of Canada, from the people of India, threatened but not disheartened, in danger but not afraid, a message of hope and of faith, coupled with their warm and sincere fraternal greetings.

## CIVIL DEFENCE

[ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 172 ]

in lesser degree, to motor vehicles, including those of the Casualty Services, Rescue Services and Fire Services. Tyre punctures may result in dislocation of humanitarian work during an air raid.

"Tests of the effects which large quantities of broken glass on roads might be expected to have on the tyres of vehicles, indicate that the risk of serious damage is not great, provided that a few simple precautions are taken," says a Circular issued by the Civil Defence Department, Government of India, to all Provincial Governments. It continues:

If speed is not essential and broken glass lies only in isolated patches on the roads, it may be possible to avoid driving over it by clearing tracks, e.g., with a stiff broom and shovel, but should it be found necessary to drive over broken glass, the following precautions should be taken:—

(a) Care should be taken to see that all tyres are, so far as possible, kept inflated to the correct pressure.

(b) A speed of about 15 miles per hour should be maintained when driving over the glass.

(c) After traversing the glass, the earliest opportunity should be taken to remove any glass splinters which may have been picked up in the grooves of the treads of the tyres or become slightly embedded in the rubber itself; brushing with a wire brush is recommended for this purpose.

(d) Later, as soon as opportunity occurs, the tyres should be very thoroughly examined at the A.R.P. depot, and any small pieces of glass found still to be embedded in the rubber should be carefully removed, e.g., with a screwdriver. This is important, since even small particles remaining in the rubber may eventually work into the tyres and cause a puncture.

## STIRRUP PUMPS

Stirrup pumps, with which the organised Civil Defence House Fire Parties are equipped, are purchased by the Government of India and distributed to Provincial Governments and Indian States, in accordance with local needs. Very large quantities of stirrup pumps have thus been distributed.

A recent consignment of 35,000 pumps has been distributed as follows: Bengal, 20,000, Bombay, 10,000, and Madras, 5,000. It is understood that these Provincial Governments will arrange to sell the pumps to the public, through accredited dealers, Wardens, depots, etc., at the rate of Rs. 25 each.

A stirrup pump is the handiest method of dealing with an incendiary bomb or any fire on the premises, and it is perfectly simple to organise a domestic party of three persons to practise the use of a stirrup pump for dealing with fires and incendiary bombs. It can also be used for many ordinary domestic purposes, such as washing motor cars and spraying khas-khas and the garden.



# BURMA NOTIFICATIONS

## BURMA GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN INDIA

**H**is Excellency the Governor of Burma's permanent residence while in India will be Simla. (Address :—Governor of Burma's Camp, Simla). In His Excellency's absence the Hon'ble Mr. J. H. Wise, C.B.E., I.C.S., has been appointed Deputy Governor. (Address :—Observatory House, Simla).

The Hon'ble Premier, Sir Paw Tun, resides at Summer Hill House, Simla; and the Hon'ble Finance Minister, U Htoon Aung Gyaw, at Villa Nova, Boileauganj, Simla.

The following offices have been opened at Simla with the addresses given below :—

Chief Secretary's Department. Lower Buildings, General Headquarters, Simla.

Defence Department (dealing with the Burma Army, Navy and Air Force and the Areas specified in Part I. of the Second Schedule to the Government of Burma Act, 1935). Do.

Finance Department (Defence). Do.

Headquarters, Army in Burma. Middle Block, G.H.Q. (I) Buildings, Simla.

Burma Railways. The Secretary, Government of Burma Railway Department, Simla.

Combined office of the Auditor-General & Accountant-General, Burma. The Auditor-General, Burma or the Accountant-General, Burma, Lower Buildings, General Headquarters, Simla.

The Chief Engineer, Public Works Department (Irrigation, Buildings and Roads), the Inspector-General of Police and the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Burma, are temporarily established at Simla. (Address :—Lower Buildings, General Headquarters, Simla).

The Inspector-General of Prisons, Burma, has established a temporary office at Lahore. (Address :—Lt.-Col. I. S. Nalwa, I.M.S., Inspector-General of Prisons, Burma, Faletti's Hotel, Lahore).

The Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs, Burma, has opened an office at the Telegraph Storeyard, Alipore, Calcutta.

There is also a Government of Burma office at Calcutta. (Address :—Lt.-Col. R. R. Ewing, I.A., c/o the Home (Political) Department, Government of Bengal, Calcutta). It is further proposed to open shortly a Government of Burma office in the Madras Presidency to advise applicants from South India on the preparation of their claims and to grant financial aid in urgent cases.

### Government Servants

Colonel Ewing will deal with the immediate needs of evacuated Government servants other than Railway servants arriving in Calcutta and, as far as possible, will keep a nominal roll of evacuee Government servants.

Gazetted officers should send their bills for pay or pension to the Auditor and Accountant-General.

Other correspondence relating to pay, pensions, leave, employment of Government servants, goods supplied to the Government of Burma, contracts with Government, security deposits, property requisitioned, etc., should be addressed to the appropriate departments. In cases of doubt the Chief Secretary should be addressed.

Gazetted officers who seek or obtain offers of employment under the Governments in India should ask the employing authority to apply for orders of the Government of India, who will consult the Government of Burma. Non-gazetted officers and subordinates, except those employed by the Burma Railways or the Posts and Telegraphs Department, and clerks except those employed by the Posts and Telegraphs Department, may accept temporary employment in India without further permission, but should report the details to the appropriate Department of the Government of Burma.

The staff of the Posts and Telegraphs Department and the non-clerical staff of the Burma Railways should apply to their Department for permission before seeking other employment.

Rangoon Corporation—All correspondence should be addressed to the Trustee, Rangoon Corporation, Marina Hotel, Simla.

## ALLOWANCES TO INDIGENT REFUGEES IN INDIA

It appears that there is still some misunderstanding regarding allowances payable to indigent refugees in India and to dependants of Indians stranded in enemy occupied territories:

All such allowances are granted only against undertakings to repay. It is for Provincial authorities to determine what allowance is suitable in individual cases. For the grant of allowances applications should be made to district authorities. The Government of India have assumed the financial responsibility in respect of Indians and Anglo-Indians. Debts will be raised against other Governments for others.

The Government of India have prescribed certain maxima for the guidance of Provincial authorities according to the following scales :—

Estimated normal income or remittance	Single adult earner or remittance receiver	With wife or adult dependant	Child
0—50	15	25	5
51—150	30	50	8
151—400	60	100	12
401—750	100	170	16
Over 750	150	250	20

The above maxima are subject to the condition that the allowance in the case

Rangoon University and Constituent Colleges—All correspondence should be addressed to Professor C. G. Beasley, Grand Hotel, Simla, who will also receive applications relating to scholarships and educational allowances.

Rangoon Development Trust—Correspondence should be addressed to the Chief Secretary, Government of Burma.

Rangoon Port Commissioners—Correspondence should be addressed, for the present, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma.

Other Local Funds—Generally the Government of Burma are not liable for claims against such funds, but claims may be registered in the Chief Secretary's Department.

Teachers of Aided Schools—Teachers' Provident Fund will be dealt with by the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs, Burma, as regards deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank. Correspondence relating to the Government contribution to the Fund should be addressed to the Chief Secretary.

War Risks Insurance Scheme—Claims should be addressed to the Chief Secretary, Government of Burma.

Claims for war damage to property not covered by insurance—The Government of Burma are prepared to register and record such claims for consideration after the war without acknowledging any legal liability. Claims should be addressed to the Chief Secretary.

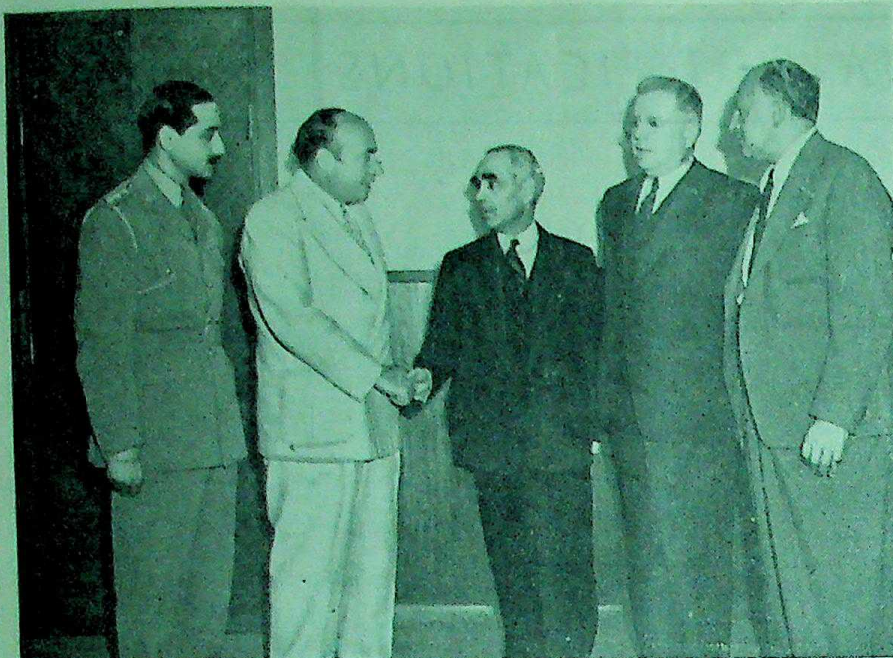
of any group dependent upon one earner or remittance receiver shall not exceed either 75 per cent of the normal income or remittance or Rs. 350 per mensem, whichever is less. These scales will remain in force for six months in the first instance from July 1, 1942. Provincial authorities have discretion to make allowances in respect of children conditional upon proof being forthcoming that the children are attending school. Each case is subject to monthly review to ascertain whether the recipient has obtained employment.

## REFUGEE PROBLEMS DISCUSSED

Many questions affecting refugees from Burma, Malaya and elsewhere were discussed and ideas exchanged regarding the problems now to be faced, including the absorption of refugees into India's economic life and the settlement of various claims for compensation, at an informal conference held in New Delhi on July 24 under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney, Member, Indians Overseas Department.

Those present included representatives of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the Central Indian Evacuees Relief Committee, the Burma Indian Associations of Madras and Surat, the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association and the Central Indian Overseas Association, Pandit H. N. Kunzru, Sir Raza Ali, Sir A. H. Ghuznavi and Mr. Saraogi.





Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, Agent-General for India, was entertained at a luncheon by U. S. film industry leaders, at M-G-M studios. He is received by his hosts

## SIR G. S. BAJPAI ENTERTAINED BY AMERICAN FILM INDUSTRY LEADERS

Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, Agent-General for India in Washington, told film industry leaders at a luncheon given in his honour at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios, that India will fight if an attempt is made to invade the sub-continent by the common enemy.

"We of India," he said, "are as much with you in this war as the United Kingdom of Great Britain, as Australia, as Canada. We already have raised more than a million and a quarter men on an entirely voluntary basis to repel the Japanese invader if he dares to try to enter our country. You can rely on the courage and steadfast loyalty of India to the cause for which we are all fighting."

### Those Present

Forty leading figures in motion pictures attended the luncheon at which Mr. Frank Freeman, head of the Motion Picture Producers Association presided, following a brief address of welcome by Mr. Al Lichtman, M-G-M Vice-President, as official host of the occasion.

Among those attending the luncheon were Sir Cedric Hardwicke; Gilbert Holliday, British Vice-Consul at Los Angeles; Col. Frank Hodson, Chairman, British War Advisory Board; Harry Cohen; David Selznick; Alexander Korda; Edward Arnold, Chairman, Screen Actors' Guild; George Stevens; J. P. McGowan; Clifford Reid; Maurice Benjamin; Herbert Freston; Mendel Silberberg; Alan Scott, head of the Writer's Mobilisation; James Hilton, author; L. K. Sidney; actors Alan Mowbray, Herbert Marshall, Reginald Gardiner, Halliwell Hobbes; M-G-M producers George Haight, Frederick Stephani, Arthur Freed,



FORTY LEADING FIGURES IN MOTION PICTURES ATTENDED THE LUNCHEON. SIR GIRJA SHANKAR WITH ONE OF HIS HOSTS



SIR GIRJA SHANKAR SPOKE TO HIS HOSTS OF INDIA'S WAR EFFORT

Jack Chertok, Bernard Fineman, B. F. Zeidman, J. Walter Ruben, Sam Marx, Carey Wilson; Capt. Chaudhuri (Aide to Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai); Arch Reeve; William H. Mooring; Asit Ghosh; Leon Gordon; and Samuel Goldwyn.

## WAR SERVICE DEFINED

In the Home Department Press Communique dated March 13, 1941, it was announced that 50 per cent of the annual vacancies occurring in the Indian Civil Service and the Indian Police would be left unfilled with a view to their being made available after the war to be filled by suitable candidates with war service and that a similar scheme of reservation would apply also to the Central Services. Inquiries have since been received from time to time as to what type of service will be reckoned as "War Service" for the above purposes. It has accordingly been decided to adopt the following definition of War Service, which is published for general information:—

- (a) Service of any kind in a unit or formation liable for service overseas;
- (b) Service in India under military, munitions or stores authorities with a liability to serve overseas;
- (c) All other service involving subjection to naval, military or air force law;
- (d) A period of training with a military unit or formation involving liability to serve overseas;
- (e) Wholtime service in any civil defence organisation specified in this behalf by the Central or the Provincial Government; and
- (f) Such other service as may hereafter be declared as war service for the purpose of this definition.

## GOVERNMENT SERVANT MAY BE TRANSFERRED ANYWHERE IN INDIA

Members of the Provincial Services and locally recruited Central Services are at present not liable for service outside their province or the area of recruitment. It is considered that war developments may make it necessary to require Government servants to serve in any part of India where their services may be needed. An Ordinance has accordingly been issued providing that, notwithstanding anything contained to the contrary in any rules regulating the conditions of service, Government servants may be required by the Provincial Government under which they are, for the time being, serving, or by the Central Government, if they are serving in connection with the affairs of the Central Government, to serve in any place in India.

These powers are intended to be used only when circumstances make such action clearly necessary in the interests of the country as a whole. It is not intended to apply the Ordinance to persons such as those employed in A.R.P. services and certain clerical establishments who were recruited for purely local employment.

## URGENT PRESS TELEGRAMS TO U. S.

From August 1, 1942, urgent press telegrams to the U.S.A. will be accepted and charged at the ordinary full rate per word.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1942



## WAR FUNDS

### VICEROY'S WAR PURPOSES FUND

**C**ontributions to H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund received during the fortnight ended July 15, 1942, bring the grand total of cash offers to Rs. 7,12,19,714-3-6 (exclusive of Rs. 80,761-0-9—interest realised on investments).

On June 30, 1942, the total collections in the St. Dunstan's Section amounted to Rs. 6,70,000. Total payments in India and overseas aggregated Rs. 6,08,26,600.

Contributions for the following objects would be particularly welcome:—Indian Red Cross, War Victims Fund for East Asia, Welfare of Indian merchant seamen, and Benevolent Funds of the fighting forces (Indian and British).

#### BIHAR DONATES RS. 3 LAKHS

The Bihar Provincial War Committee has contributed Rs. 3,00,000 to H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, for joint organisation of the Red Cross and St. John's Ambulance Association.

This contribution includes a gift of Rs. 1,00,000 made by the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Sir Kameshwara Singh of Darbhanga to mark the occasion of the visit to Bihar of

His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, to be used for such purpose connected with the war as His Royal Highness might direct. His Royal Highness has been pleased to command that the money should be applied to the Red Cross and Hospital Comforts Fund.

A further contribution of Rs. 1,35,000 has been made by the Bihar Committee, to be utilised for the purchase of two fighter planes for the R.A.F. These planes are to be named "Bihar VIII" and "Bihar IX" respectively.

#### OTHER GIFTS

Rs. 8,881 from the Deputy Commissioners of districts for the China Day Fund, Rs. 4,908 from the Punjab Medical Department for the purchase of an ambulance car, Rs. 586 from officers of the Punjab Agricultural Department for purchase of aircraft, Rs. 500 from officers of the Punjab I. C. S. Commission for the Indian Merchant Seamen, Rs. 500 from Women's Voluntary Services, Lahore, for Eastern Air Raid Distress Relief Fund, and Rs. 40 from Sheikh Imam-ul-Haq (Rs. 25 for Royal Indian Navy and Rs. 15 for Indian evacuees) are the latest contributions from the Punjab War Purposes Fund to H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund.

The Officers and Men of the Bengal Police, who have already presented eleven armoured carriers to the Indian Army, have contributed Rs. 10,000 to H.E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund for another armoured carrier.

#### Nawab Of Dir's Donation

The Nawab of Dir presented Rs. 20,000 for the War Purposes Fund on June 23, 1942, when the Political Agent, Malakand, visited the Dir State which is one of the important States in the tribal territory, North-West India.

Last January the Nawab presented Rs. 20,000 to the Governor of the North-West Frontier Province for the Fund when His Excellency visited the State. Earlier still, the Nawab had contributed Rs. 30,000 towards War Purposes Fund.

The Kolhapur State has contributed to H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund a further sum of Rs. 1,196 being the proceeds of a wrestling programme held recently.

The Mewar Government have generously contributed a further sum of Rs. 3,275 to His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund for the purchase of a fully-equipped Ambulance.

The gifts have been gratefully accepted by H. E. the Viceroy.

#### INDIA'S GIFTS TO CHINA

H. E. the Viceroy has sent to Madame Chiang Kai-shek Rs. 10,00,000 which is a part of the "China Day" collections made in India. Forwarding the money, His Excellency said:—"You will know best how to use this money for the relief of suffering among your gallant people."

Expressing her appreciation of this gift, Madame Chiang Kai-shek has informed H. E. the Viceroy that the gift has been divided among the National Association for Refugee Children, the Women's War Relief Association, the Committee for the Chinese Blind and other charitable funds.

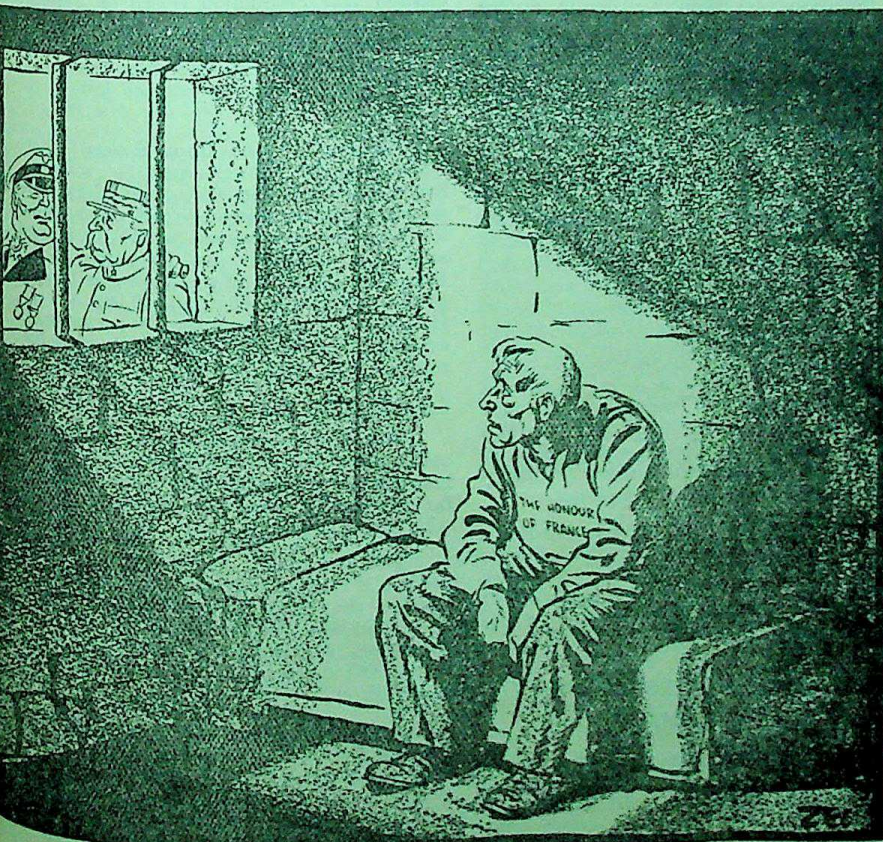
In addition to the above, a quantity of medical supplies, urgently needed in China, purchased out of the balance of the "China Day" collections, has been sent by air to Chungking for the use of the Chinese Red Cross. This has been gratefully acknowledged.

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS TO DEFENCE LOANS

Subscriptions to the Third Defence Loan for the week ending July 25, 1942, amounted to Rs. 98,16,500.

The total amount subscribed to the Interest-free Defence Bonds up to July 25, 1942, was Rs. 2,97,60,000; to the 3 per cent Defence Loans (including previous issues) Rs. 1,05,79,55,000; and to the Post Office Ten-Year Defence Savings Certificates Rs. 5,69,00,000.

The grand total of subscriptions to all Indian Defence Loans since they were first issued in June 1940 up to July 25, 1942, is Rs. 1,14,46,15,000.



THE PRISONER THEY DIDN'T RELEASE

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1942



# PERSONALITIES



MR. H. L. STIMSON, U. S. SECRETARY FOR WAR

## MR. H. L. STIMSON

HAS SERVED FIVE U.S. PRESIDENTS

Ten years ago, Mr. Henry Lewis Stimson was already fighting mad. He was crying out against "the passive and shameful acquiescence in the wrong that is being done in the Far East." He meant Japan's first grab at Manchuria in 1931, and the League of Nations' failure to stop it. Mr. Stimson has been calling for action ever since.

Secretary of War, Mr. Stimson, now 75 years of age, has given eminently gallant and valuable service to five United States Presidents.

President Theodore Roosevelt appointed the up-and-coming lawyer as United States Attorney in New York way back in 1906. U. S. Attorney Stimson made court-room history for three years.

### Left Desk Job To Fight

President Howard Taft gave Mr. Stimson his first Cabinet post in 1911, when he made him Secretary of War. But, when the first World War broke out, this presidential favourite wanted more than a desk job. He enlisted, went overseas with the 31st Field Artillery, rose to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

In 1927, President Calvin Coolidge appointed Mr. Henry L. Stimson special arbitrator in a dispute between two rival candidates for the Presidency in Nicaragua, when that country appealed to the United States for help. Mr. Stimson settled the dispute with remarkable tact, was soon asked to become Governor-General of the Philippines.

### Friend Of The Filipinos

In the Philippines, Mr. Stimson became fast friends with Quezon, M. Osmena and other Filipino leaders. His Governorship was a popular one because he constructively helped to educate the Filipinos for the future responsibilities of self-government. The people of these islands are still grateful to him.

When, for instance, the chieftain of a Moro tribe in the Philippines interior recently wanted to prove that he and his 20,000 bolomen would be brave and loyal to the last against the Japanese invaders, it was to Mr. Stimson in far-away Washington that he forwarded his pledge. They "were going to die for America and their country," if need be, and he wanted Mr. Stimson, old friend of his father, to know it.

President Herbert Hoover was the fourth U.S. President to call on Mr. Henry Stimson. In 1929, the tall grey-haired lawyer, diplomat and soldier was asked to become Secretary of State. He held the post for four years, won a reputation for being "America's most useful trouble-shooter and peace-maker." His stand in the Manchurian crisis was particularly prophetic.

In 1931, Japan sent troops and bombers into Manchuria. This violation of the Pact of Paris was excused as a desire to protect Manchurian railroads against bandits. Mr. Stimson was appalled. He did his angry best to stir the rest of the still peaceful world into opposition against this first intimation of Fascist greed.

### The "Stimson Doctrine"

And, since Mr. Stimson stood firm, so did America. The "Stimson Doctrine" saved America from the ignominy of recognising Japan's vaudeville act of Manchuria-into-Manchukuo as anything except bold-faced theft.

In 1940 President Franklin D. Roosevelt put himself on record as the fifth U. S. President to need Mr. Henry Stimson. Since the very outbreak of hostilities abroad, Mr. Stimson had been writing in favour of all aid to the Allied Nations as well as the strongest possible national defences. Soon after President Roosevelt appointed him Secretary of War (for the second time), Mr. Stimson spoke at Yale, his *alma mater*. This was in June, 1940, and way back then, the new Cabinet member, left no doubt as to where he stood.

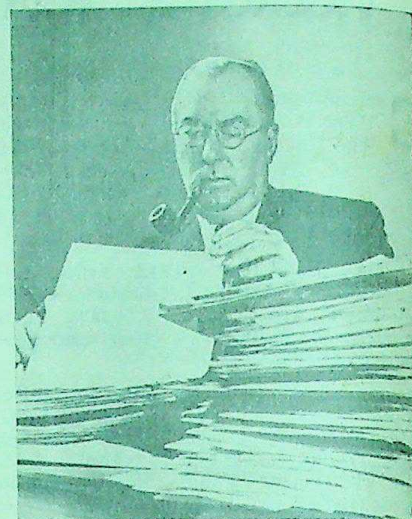
He spoke of national compulsory military training even then as "immediately necessary, fair and intelligent." He advocated "repeal of our ill-starred so-called neutrality pact"; he urged "accelerated shipment of planes and munitions to England in our own ships, if necessary."

His principles are now being translated into the making and moving of a new American Army of millions of men. His indignation finds an ever-expanding echo in the roar of thousands, hundreds of thousands, of American tanks and planes.

It is probably ex-Colonel Stimson's grief that he cannot ride along on an officer's charger or an artillery caisson, but must stay at home and help win a good world peace again from his desk as head of the entire Department of War.

## MALAYAN REPRESENTATIVE IN INDIA

Mr. W. J. K. Stark, Malayan Representative in India, 2L, South Parade, Bangalore Cantt., will in addition to his present duties also deal with requests for financial assistance from dependants in India of ex-Air Force, ex-Admiralty and ex-War Office civilian employees missing in Malaya.



MR. DONALD NELSON, CHAIRMAN OF THE U. S. WAR PRODUCTION BOARD

## MR. DONALD NELSON

The people of the United States are building for a United Nations victory.

Like a giant truck rolling downhill, the huge U.S. war machine is moving faster and faster. And at the wheel is the new leader of the U.S. war effort. His name is Mr. Donald Marr Nelson.

America's production boss, appointed by President Roosevelt to head the newly created War Production Board on January 13, 1942, was born 53 years ago in a small Mid-Western town. His family was poor. Yet today Mr. Donald Nelson has, next to the President's, the biggest job in the U.S.

After graduation from Missouri State University, Mr. Nelson went to work for Sears, Roebuck and Co., as a clerk. He stayed with the famous mail order house for 27 years and worked up to an annual salary of \$70,000. As Executive Vice-President in charge of purchases, he bought goods at the rate of \$750,000,000 a year. His firm supplied 6,800,000 customers annually with 135,000 items of merchandise ranging from shoes to tractors.

### Ideal Training Ground

This was ideal training for his present assignment. Mr. Nelson learned to balance his purchases against the needs of the farmers and factory workers who traded with Sears Roebuck.

Two years ago, President Roosevelt needed a man who could balance supplies against the needs of the whole nation. He asked Mr. Nelson to do it. Without hesitation, Mr. Nelson gave up his high salary and comfortable home and went to Washington.

He soon became important to the growing U.S. defence effort, and it was only logical that when the time came Mr. Donald Nelson should be chosen for the biggest job of all—chairmanship of the War Production Board.

In his new capacity, Mr. Nelson has complete charge of the current \$52,000,000,000

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1942



## PERSONALITIES

U.S. war programme. He has four billion dollars a month to spend. Out of thousands of factories and hundreds of assembly lines he is contriving a streamlined production machine.

Mr. Nelson keeps pounding away at the idea that it is better to "sweat for a little while than perspire mildly for a long haul." He is convinced that the United Nations will win this war on the production lines. The United Nations have more factories. They have more of the crucial war materials too.

On the day Mr. Nelson was made head of the War Production Board he warned: "We have just one job to do—to make enough war materials to lick Hitler and the Japanese, and to do it in the shortest possible time."

A few days later he told 250 industrialists, "Get the stuff moving and get it moving now."

### Only One Goal

The "stuff" got moving. By the end of his first week at the new job, people knew that the President had picked the right man. He has the most capable men in the country helping him. He has the confidence of the great industrial leaders and of the working men. He has only one goal for 1942: to see that the country produces the 60,000 airplanes, the 45,000 tanks, the 8,000,000 tons of merchant shipping asked for by the President.

Today U.S. production is picking up momentum. Mr. Donald Nelson has streamlined the huge war machine. His model is built to outdistance all competitors.

## U. S. MILITARY MISSION

Here are the men who went to London to work out details of military co-operation between America and Britain:

**Lieut.-Gen. Henry H. Arnold**, Chief of the U.S.A. Army Air Forces, learned to fly before the last War with the Wright brothers. He was one of that little band of Army men who, hovering not very far above the earth in one of those early spluttering crates, first had the idea of mounting guns, bombs and wireless on airplanes. In 1912 General Arnold flew 30 miles round Washington in an airplane with a 40-h.p. engine and a rattling chain sprocket. The strain caused him to collapse when he was lifted from the cockpit. He visited England last year to have a look at the R.A.F. and had conferences with many high officials. General Arnold's working day often stretches from 18 to 24 hours on end. In Washington he is generally the first man in the War Department. He has the longest record of continuous flying service of any pilot in the U.S.A. Army.

**Rear-Admiral John H. Towers** has been flying for 30 years. He also took his ticket with the Wright brothers in 1911. He still flies about 100 hours a year as a pilot, though he has reached his 57th year. In the 1914-18 War he was serving with Admiral Sims as Head of the Aviation Branch of the U. S. A. Navy in London. He used to fly big bombers in 1919 and he commanded the first flight of naval aircraft across the Atlantic.

**Major-General Dwight D. Eisenhower**, Chief of the Operations Section of the U. S. A. General Staff, is the youngest of the three. He is 52. His promotion has been rapid. Last autumn "Ike" Eisenhower was a colonel. He was Chief of Staff of



Indian Sportsmen on active service—Captain K. S. Chatterjee, M.C., Bihar Olympic athlete (left), Major Agya Singh, noted Punjab hockey player (centre) and Captain Mohammad Saeed, an all-India cricketer, photographed somewhere in Iraq

the Blue Army in the American Army's complicated manoeuvres in Louisiana. He distinguished himself to such an extent that fellow officers predicted that he would soon be a General. They were right. Seven years ago General MacArthur chose him as his assistant when he went to the Philippines. Eisenhower helped to make the plans for the defence of the Islands.

### MR. M. L. RAYCHAUDHURI

Mr. M. L. Raychaudhuri of T. N. J. College, Bhagalpur, has been appointed a corresponding member of the Indian Historical Records Commission for a period of five years with effect from June 23, 1942.

## NOMINATED TO CENTRAL ADVISORY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Governor-General in Council has nominated the following as Members of the Central Advisory Board of Education in India:—

**Sir Mirza Mohammad Ismail**, K.C.I.E., O.B.E., Prime Minister, Jaipur State.

**Mr. Gaganvihari Lal Mehta**, M.A., President of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi.



## ON THE A.I.R.

## THE STORY OF THE FLYING TIGERS

"If you took a trip to Free China today you would probably see in the streets of Kunning and Chungking a good few smartly uniformed men whom the Chinese people call Mei Kuo Jon, or citizens from the Land of Beauty (as America is called in Chinese), and for whom the Chinese have developed a special liking and admiration. You would find these young well-built men friendly, cheerful and extraordinarily efficient, and if you stayed in China for any length of time you would surely hear about the wonderful work they have been doing within the last year," said Mr. C. H. Lowe broadcasting from A.I.R., Calcutta, on "The story of the Flying Tigers."

He added: About two weeks ago the Japanese newscasts stated that these men from the Land of Beauty were quitting China, and predicted jubilantly that henceforth Japan would have one obstacle less in her effort to conquer China. But contrary to what Tokyo had hoped for, the American Volunteer Group, now merged into the United States Army Air Corps, are not going home. The majority of the members of the A.V.G., as the Group is known in China, are remaining to continue the fight against Japan. Brigadier General C. L. Chennault declared in Chungking on July 4, that he and his men would return to America only when they had defeated Japan.

## The A.V.G.

The American Volunteer Group was formed in August, 1941, by order of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. After a period of training in Burma, the A.V.G. started combat activities in China and south-eastern Asia towards the close of 1941. The A.V.G. have never numbered more than 250, but each man, pilot or ground personnel, is a trained specialist. Because of the fine work they have done during the last few months, they have established a reputation as "Flying Tigers."

Since the first battle on December 20, 1941, the A.V.G. have shot down in aerial combat or burned on the ground in strafing attacks no less than 284 Japanese planes—a remarkable achievement when compared with the larger numbers of aircraft the Japanese have invariably employed. In the first battle on December 20, near Kunning, the A.V.G. intercepted seven enemy bombers, shot down four confirmed.

## Twelve Jap Planes Down

On December 23, when the Japanese air force struck at Rangoon, the Third Squadron of the A.V.G. shot down 12 bombers. On Christmas Day, when the Japanese radio broadcast from Saigon that Rangoon would be heavily bombed, the A.V.G. pilots, ever ready to give the enemy a hot and hearty welcome, shot down a total of 23 Japanese aircraft confirmed and chased the remainder of the Japanese air fleet across the Gulf of Martaban, shooting many more bombers down in the Gulf.

Partly because of the work done by the A.V.G. the Japanese had to stop open daylight bombing of Rangoon for a time. In December and January, the A.V.G., sometimes in collaboration with the Royal Air Force, raided and harassed several Japanese aerodromes in Thailand and Indo-China.

A review of the monthly returns recorded by the A.V.G. during the last few months would show what heavy blows they have inflicted upon the enemy:—

In January, the A.V.G. destroyed a total of 77 Japanese planes confirmed; in February, the Group shot down or burned on the ground a total of 58 enemy planes; in March, the "Flying Tigers" accounted for 34 enemy aircraft; in April, the American Volunteers destroyed 38 Japanese planes; in May, when the Japanese had developed a belated caution, only 26 of their planes were destroyed by the A.V.G.

All the men in the A.V.G. have done more than they were originally expected to. At least seven A.V.G. pilots have each

outstanding bravery and conduct while under fire. One crew chief, named Harry E. Fox, has been recommended to the British Government for the Order of the British Empire by the Air Officer Commanding the Royal Air Force in Burma.

The A.V.G. have not confined their activities to aerial combat; hazardous bombing missions and strafing of enemy aerodromes and fortified positions have occupied a good deal of their time. For instance, on March 24, ten A.V.G. planes raided the Japanese aerodrome at Chingmai in Thailand, and when the "Flying Tigers" departed they left the aerodrome a shambles, with 15 huge fires burning.

## ORGANISER OF THE A.V.G.

The organiser of the A.V.G. is Colonel Chennault, an American who had retired from active duty, but who could not stand by and watch so barbarous a country as Japan bomb the homes and the women and children of China.

Colonel Chennault was convinced of China's will to fight. He admired China's resistance even against the heaviest of odds. He saw how over many months the people of Chungking took the hell-fire that the Japanese bombers rained from the skies, and how they had no adequate air force with which to retaliate.

So Colonel Chennault went to America and, with the permission of the President of the United States, he organised a volunteer group of some of the finest airmen from the pick of those already trained; and this group, of whose heroic work in Burma and China you have already heard, became the Tigers of the Chinese Air Force.

This was a voluntary gesture, because America had not then been involved in war with Japan. Colonel Chennault's spirit, as that of the young men fighting under him, was the outcome of what Colonel



COLONEL CHENNAULT

Chennault had seen happen to China and humanity and he could not stand by and let it happen. The spirit of this man is worth emulating.

shot down or destroyed on the ground 10 or more enemy aircraft. Squadron Leader R. H. Neale of Iowa, had the highest score, having brought down 16 Japanese planes. Three others (Squadron Leader D. L. Hill of Texas, Flight Leader W. N. Reid of Iowa and Flight Leader W. D. McGarry of Los Angeles) have each destroyed 11 Japanese planes.

Eight A.V.G. pilots, who have performed outstanding combat work in the defence of Rangoon, have been recommended by the British Government for the Distinguished Flying Cross, while 33 of them have already been decorated by the Chinese Government for outstanding bravery and combat achievements.

Besides, several crew chiefs have been decorated by the Chinese Government for

In May, when the Japanese broke through the Chinese lines and made a heavy assault from Lashio to break across the Salween River and attempted to capture Paoshan in Western Yunnan, the A.V.G. made a timely contribution and helped the Chinese forces in stopping the sudden Japanese drive.

Due to constant bombing and strafing attacks the Japanese mechanised columns were broken up, and the Chinese troops were given a chance to consolidate their positions on the Salween Front. Between May 4 and May 22, the A.V.G. sent out two or three missions a day to bomb and strafe the enemy on the Burma-China border.



## ON THE A. I. R.

Thus far the A.V.G. have covered a fairly wide area in their operations, including Burma, Indo-China, Thailand and many parts of eastern and central China. Considering the extensive territory the A.V.G. have had to protect or work in, and bearing in mind the fact that the Japanese have been able to maintain air superiority since the outbreak of Pacific hostilities, the A.V.G. have done wonderfully well.

### Generalissimo's Party To A.V.G.

The "Flying Tigers" have Madame Chiang Kai-shek as their honorary commandant. In fact, Madame Chiang Kai-shek was one of the first to suggest an American Volunteer Group fighting under the Chinese Air Force, and she has played an important part in the execution of this plan.

The Chinese people have done their best to make the American fighters feel at home in China. Specially built hostels, with modern conveniences, have been used to accommodate American pilots and ground personnel. The New Life Movement War Area Service Corps has furnished them with adequate recreational facilities and good American meals at reasonable rates.

The A.V.G. have been frequently honoured and entertained by Chinese Government officials and public leaders. During their brief visit to Kunming last February, Generalissimo and Madame Chiang gave a dinner in honour of the A.V.G.

The Chinese people have also tried to give the American fighters an opportunity to get acquainted with China and things Chinese. Classes in the Chinese language, discussion groups on contemporary problems and frequent meetings have been organised to enable the American fighters to meet and talk with the Chinese of different walks of life. In other words, the Chinese Government and people have shown their eagerness to make these American boys feel as if they were working and fighting in their own land.

### U.S. Help To China

This is not the first time the American people have helped China in developing her military and air power. As early as 1931, when the Chinese knew they must settle accounts with the Japanese warlords some day, a group of American aviation experts, headed by Col. J. H. Jouett, were invited to set up the first modern school of aviation in China.

It was an American army officer and a West Point graduate who gave Chinese cadets their first scientific training in combat flying. The groundwork done by this American mission in the Central Aviation School in Hangchow some 10 years ago is still remembered by many Chinese and is still making its influence felt in many parts of China today.

Americans have also helped China in training ground crews, mechanics and pilots in their own country. Hundreds of young Chinese cadets have been admitted into aviation schools in the United States, and have done well under American direction and with American encouragement. Some of these young men have already returned to China to fight Japan.

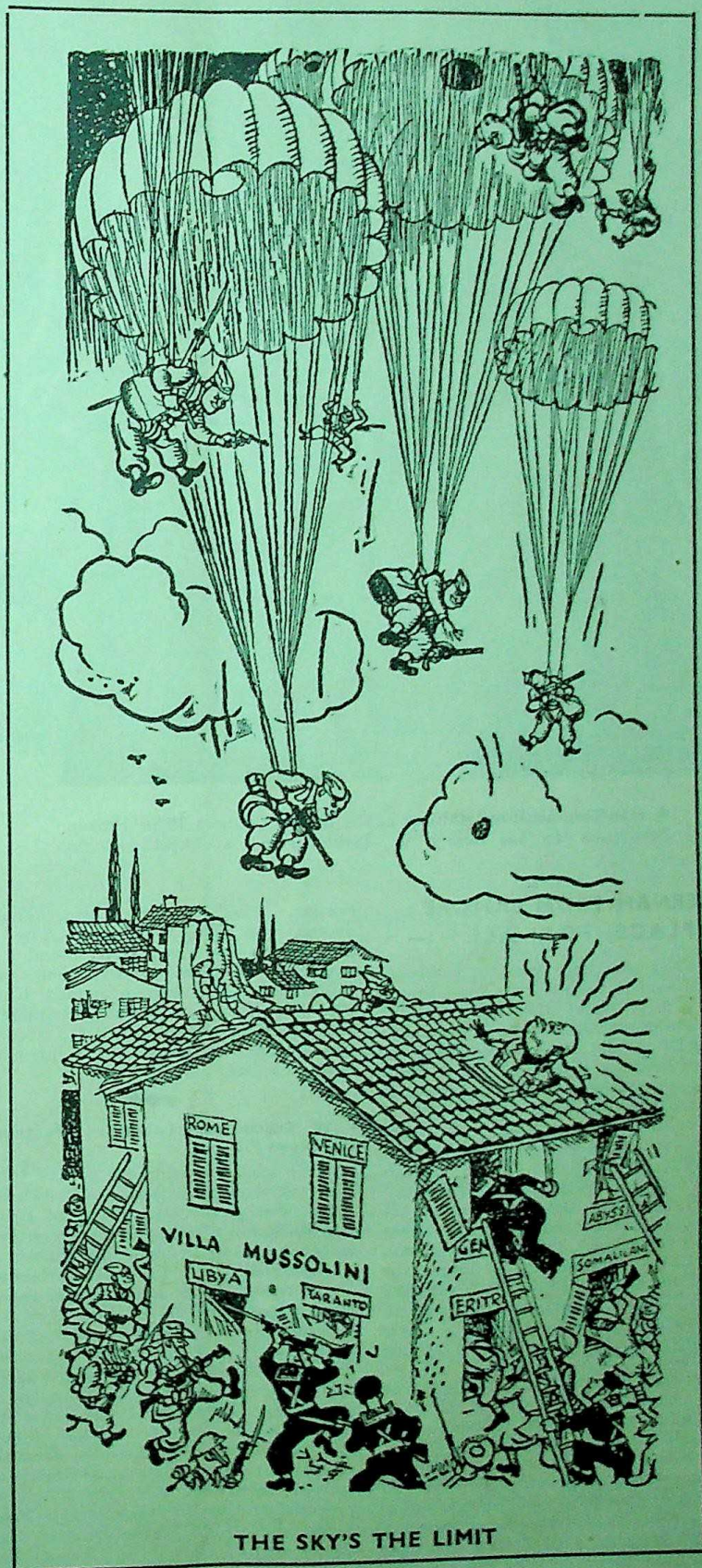
Americans, moreover, have helped China by giving her much-needed airplanes, aeronautical equipment and supplies.

The important role which the United States is playing in the China theatre of war through the formation of the A.V.G. and the recently organised U.S. Army Air Corps in Chungking can hardly be

exaggerated. American fighters are meeting a most urgent need in China, and when the war is over their contribution will be even more appreciated.

In general, the Americans have always enjoyed most cordial relations with the Chinese people. Because of their democratic spirit, because of their generous assistance in China's medical and educational

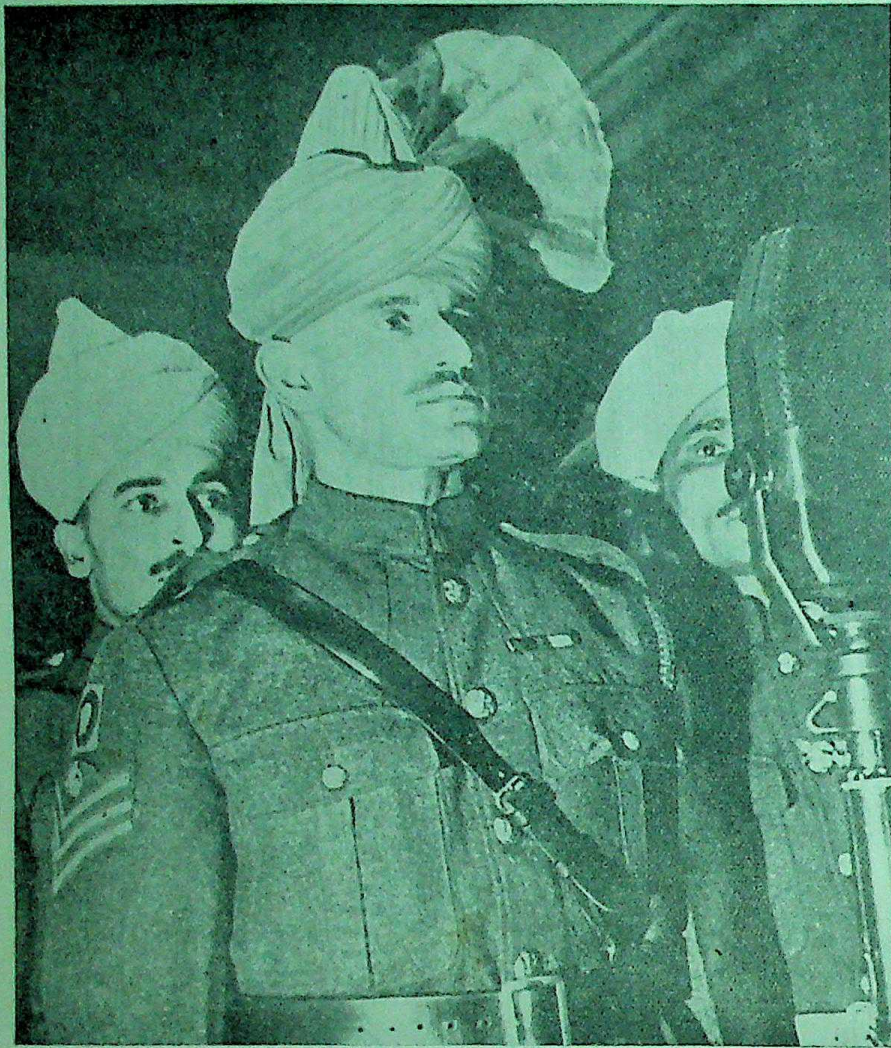
work, and because of the fact that many young Chinese men and women have studied in American colleges and universities and have learned a bit about American life and American ideals, the Land of Beauty has gained a warm spot in the hearts of the Chinese people. The great sacrifices now being made by the American air force in China have placed Sino-American friendship on a firmer foundation than ever before.



THE SKY'S THE LIMIT



## ON THE A. I. R.



A Non-Commissioned Officer of the Indian Contingent in Britain broadcasts to his family in India from a B.B.C. studio

### V. KIERNAN FROM LAHORE : "A PLACE FOR ALL" :—

Travellers who have gone to Bokhara and Samargand in recent years have sometimes tended to regret the Soviet attack on the picturesque filth of those venerable towns—while at the same time plying us with blood-curdling stories of the horrors that took place there under the rule of the Emirs, the Tsars' puppets. But a national culture does not really consist of local dirt, social abuses, or superstitions masquerading as religions. There are, no doubt, in Central Asia many cultural traditions still of value, but the Soviets are trying to disentangle and liberate these from under the rubbish, not take the rubbish for the culture. Uzbeks are no longer the feudal masters, nor Tajiks the cringing servants; they are equal, and compete in development. By 1938 there were over 300 newspapers, 1,100 schools, and 1,000,000 schoolchildren. The huge whip, the emblem of power that hung over the Citadel of Bokhara, has been transferred to the museum, along with swords, instruments of torture, and other property of the Emirs. Religion continues, only without artificial and demoralising support. In 1919 an Austrian war-prisoner saw officials stop people in the streets of Bokhara, put question to them on religion, and, if they failed to

answer, thrash or fine them. That, of course, has gone for good. The same Austrian, a few years later, found a local Soviet in a town in Uzbekistan whose chairman was a woman named Kulieva, who was before the slave of a rice-merchant. The sweeping changes—still far from complete—have been carried out mainly through local socialists.

◆◆◆

### F. W. Bustin from Lahore : "Footnotes to the News" :—

No words of mine are needed to stress the vital strategic importance of Alexandria. It is even greater than that of Gibraltar and Malta put together for on its continuance in our hands undoubtedly lie Malta's hopes of resistance. It is the headquarters of our Mediterranean Fleet, and the most important supply base in the Middle East. Cairo supplies offices for the various headquarters of the land and air forces and also acts as a junction between our armies in Egypt and those in Palestine and beyond; but Alexandria is the key to our power in the Mediterranean, and if we lost that key, the Axis would be immensely strengthened in substantiating Italy's much-ridiculed claim to mare nostrum. The British fleet would presumably have to find a base in Palestine—probably Haifa, where facilities such as those which abound in Alexandria are

practically non-existent. If Egypt fell to the enemy, our Middle East defences would depend for supplies entirely on the Persian Gulf route and the new railway which has been developed north of the Gulf. The supply position would become immensely complicated and our difficulties would be increased by the comparative freedom of operation which we would be forced to accord to Axis shipping in the Mediterranean itself owing to the pushing back of the bases from which our naval units and our air forces could operate.

◆◆◆

### Dr. K. P. Basu from Dacca : "All about Nutrition—Soya Bean" :—

A great range of food and industrial products are being made from the soya bean. As it is rich in protein, synthetic plastic articles similar to bakelite are being manufactured from soya bean in America and other countries. Ford in America has started a factory at a cost of four million dollars and there 100 tons of soya bean plastics per day are being turned out in the form of distributor parts, gear shift levers, knobs, light switches, horn buttons, car parts and window frames. Soya bean is also being used for the manufacture of glue and water paints. The soya bean is utilised for the manufacture of a large range of articles like soap, glycerine, varnish, water-proof goods, rubber substitutes, printing inks, etc., and also of butter substitutes.

It will appear that soya bean is one of the world's most valuable crops and intensive efforts should be made to grow the crop in India. This would not only solve to some extent the nutritional problem of millions of poor people in this country but would also give an impetus to some important industries. The history of groundnut in India shows that it is not an impossibility to introduce a new crop into India. It has already been possible to grow soya bean in certain parts of India like Central Provinces, Darjeeling and 24-Parganas in Bengal, Jorhat in Assam and the question is only the evolution of strains of soya bean suitable for particular areas.

◆◆◆

### Miss Jean J. Mackay from Dacca : "Brave Women of Resurgent China" :—

Let us see how the spirit of the brave Chinese women expressed itself in action. Of Madame Chiang Kai-shek's work little need be said, it is well known to all. Any yet, any talk would be incomplete without some, if only the meagrest reference to her heroic work, for is she not both the symbol and the inspiration of the new Chinese woman? Formerly, Madame Chiang Kai-shek was what we would call Under-Secretary of State for Air. No woman has ever held such a post before in any country, and yet she was able to do much for the service. Today she is the head of war relief work, chief organiser of child relief services and of the whole movement for the relief of the families of wounded soldiers. And over and above all this she directs the New Life movement, a movement which is designed to instil the combined virtues of old and modern Chinese culture into the people of the country, and there is perhaps no one better fitted than she to direct such a movement. But what of the other Chinese women, the unsung heroines who are so proudly praised? What are they doing for the future of China? They have proved themselves worthy of the New China, of the new freedom which they had achieved. They have carried on the reconstruction of China while the men fought for her defence.



## WEIGHTS, MEASURES—COINAGE—GLOSSARY—POINTS ABOUT INDIA

### WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Weights and measures in India vary not only from district to district but also for different commodities.

The principal units in all the scales of weights are the maund, seer and tola, and the standard weights for each of these are 82.28 lbs., 2.057 lbs. and 180 grains troy respectively.

The Indian tola is the same weight as the rupee, viz., 180 grains troy; the standard or railway seer is equal to 2.057 lbs. while the standard or railway maund of 40 seers is equivalent to 82 lbs. 4 oz. 9 drams. There are numerous local variations.

### COINAGE—RUPEE IN DOLLARS AND POUNDS

Re. 1 is approximately 1 sh. 6d. or 30.05 cents.  
Rs. 100 are approximately £7/9/6 or \$30.05.  
Rs. 1,000 are approximately £74/14/10 or \$300.53.  
Rs. 1,00,000 (a lakh) are approximately £7,473/19/2 or \$30,053.  
Rs. 1,00,00,000 (a crore) are approximately £747,395/16/8 or \$3,005,259.  
100,000 is one lakh (1,00,000)  
10,00,000 is one crore (1,00,00,000)

#### COINAGE

3 pies are 1 pice.  
4 pice are 1 anna.  
16 annas are 1 rupee.

### GLOSSARY OF SOME COMMON INDIAN TERMS

Khan	~ A Pathan chief or nobleman; a Pathan title.
Khalsa	~ Lit. 'pure,' 'society of the pure,' founded by Guru Govind Singh, is now equivalent to the Sikh community.
Khas	~ Personal; private; reserved; state-owned.
Kisan	~ An agriculturist; a farmer.
Kumar	~ A prince; Rajkumar, son of an Indian Raja.
Lascar	~ An Indian seaman; a sailor.
Madrasa	~ A Muslim High School.
Mahajan	~ A money-lender; a merchant.
Maulana	~ An erudite Muslim; a Muslim scholar.
Moulvi	~ A learned person (Muslim).
Mazdoor	~ A labourer.
Mela	~ A fair; an exhibition.
Mistri	~ A mechanic; mason; carpenter or foreman.
Mofussil	~ The interior of a district or province as distinguished from the headquarters.
Nawab	~ Muslim ruler or chief; a title.
Nawabzada	~ Son of a Nawab (zada, a son).
Paddy	~ Rice in the husk.
Pucca	~ Ripe; mature; cooked; made of brick (as applied to a house); regular; correct; proper; expert.
Panchayat	~ A committee for the management of the affairs of a village or a caste; theoretically the committee consists of five (panch) men.
Pandit (or Pundit)	~ A Hindu title, applied to a person versed in the Hindu scriptures. A Brahmin scholar.
Purdah	~ A veil or curtain; the practice of keeping women in seclusion.
Puja	~ Worship ( <i>pujari</i> , a priest).
Peon	~ Bearer; orderly.
Pir	~ A Muslim saint or religious teacher.
Pleader	~ A lawyer; a legal practitioner.
Raiyat (or Ryot)	~ A farmer; an agriculturist.
Sabha	~ Assembly; meeting.
Sadhu	~ A Hindu ascetic.
Sadar	~ The headquarters of a district.
Sanad	~ A charter or grant; a deed of grant.
Sannyasi	~ A Hindu ascetic or mendicant.
Sardar (or Sirdar)	~ Leader; headman; a Sikh title.
Sarkar (or Sircar)	~ A manager or accountant; the Government.
Satyagraha	~ Passive resistance (literally, insistence on or acceptance of truth).
Shroff	~ A Banker (commonly used in Bombay).
Swadesi	~ Of one's own country; made in India.
Tahsil (or Tehsil)	~ A revenue sub-division of a district. Hence "Tehsildar," the officer in charge of a tahsil.
Taluk	~ A revenue sub-division or holding; an estate. (Hence "Talukdar," one who holds a taluk).
Tola	~ A measure of weight (equivalent to 180 grains troy).
Vakil	~ An advocate; a lawyer.
Zemindar	~ A landholder. (Hence "Zemindari," an estate).
Zenana	~ Female; feminine; women's apartments.

### POINTS ABOUT INDIA

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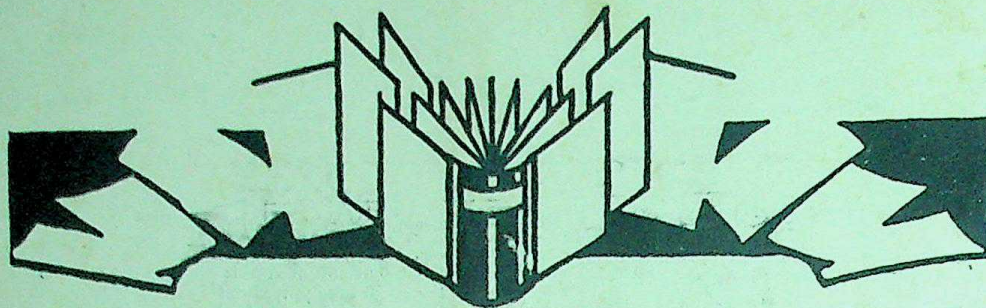
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# INDIAN INFORMATION



Handwritten text in Devanagari script, possibly a signature or date, located in the upper right corner of the image area.

● DR. B. R. AMBEDKAR ON LABOUR  
LEGISLATION IN INDIA

No. 101, September 15,  
Issued Fortnightly by the  
Information Officer,  
Government of India.



## *They Said*

"Once victory is gained, India has been offered complete freedom to provide, in whatever way she chooses, for her self-government. But that victory must first be gained."—*Sir Stafford Cripps in a broadcast, July 26.*



"The purpose of the British Government with regard to the constitutional future of India was made clear.....in the draft declaration of Sir Stafford Cripps.....the British Government stand firmly by the broad intention of their offer."—*Mr. L. S. Amery in the House of Commons, July 30.*



"It is more and more clear every day that the menace of Fascism has to be fought with all our resources mobilised to the utmost and I have no doubt your Conference will play a large part in driving home to Labour the paramount necessity of concentrating our energies on this object, the defeat of Fascism and the defeat of all movements in this country which are likely to weaken the forces now fighting against Fascism. I hope that Labour all over India will raise their voice in support of this object in unmistakable terms."—*Sir Firoz Khan Noon in a message to the First Punjab Labour Defence Conference.*



"We of India are as much with you in this war as the United Kingdom of Great Britain, as Australia, as Canada. We already have raised more than a million and a quarter men on an entirely voluntary basis to repel the Japanese invader if he dares to try to enter our country. You can rely on the courage and steadfast loyalty of India to the cause for which we are all fighting."—*Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai in a speech at the luncheon given in his honour by U.S. Film Industry Leaders.*



# INDIAN INFORMATION

Vol. 11, No. 101.

September 15, 1942

Issued Fortnightly by J. Natarajan, Principal  
Information Officer, Government of India.  
Associate Editor, Cecilie Leslie.

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ANY ITEM MAY BE REPRODUCED  
WITHOUT ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

INDIAN INFORMATION IS A REFERENCE RECORD.

**AIMS :—**To provide a condensed record of the main peace and war activities of the Government of India, together with some outstanding facts about the British Government's war activities. **INDIAN INFORMATION** does not compete with the Press; it exists for their convenience and is not intended for general circulation among the public.

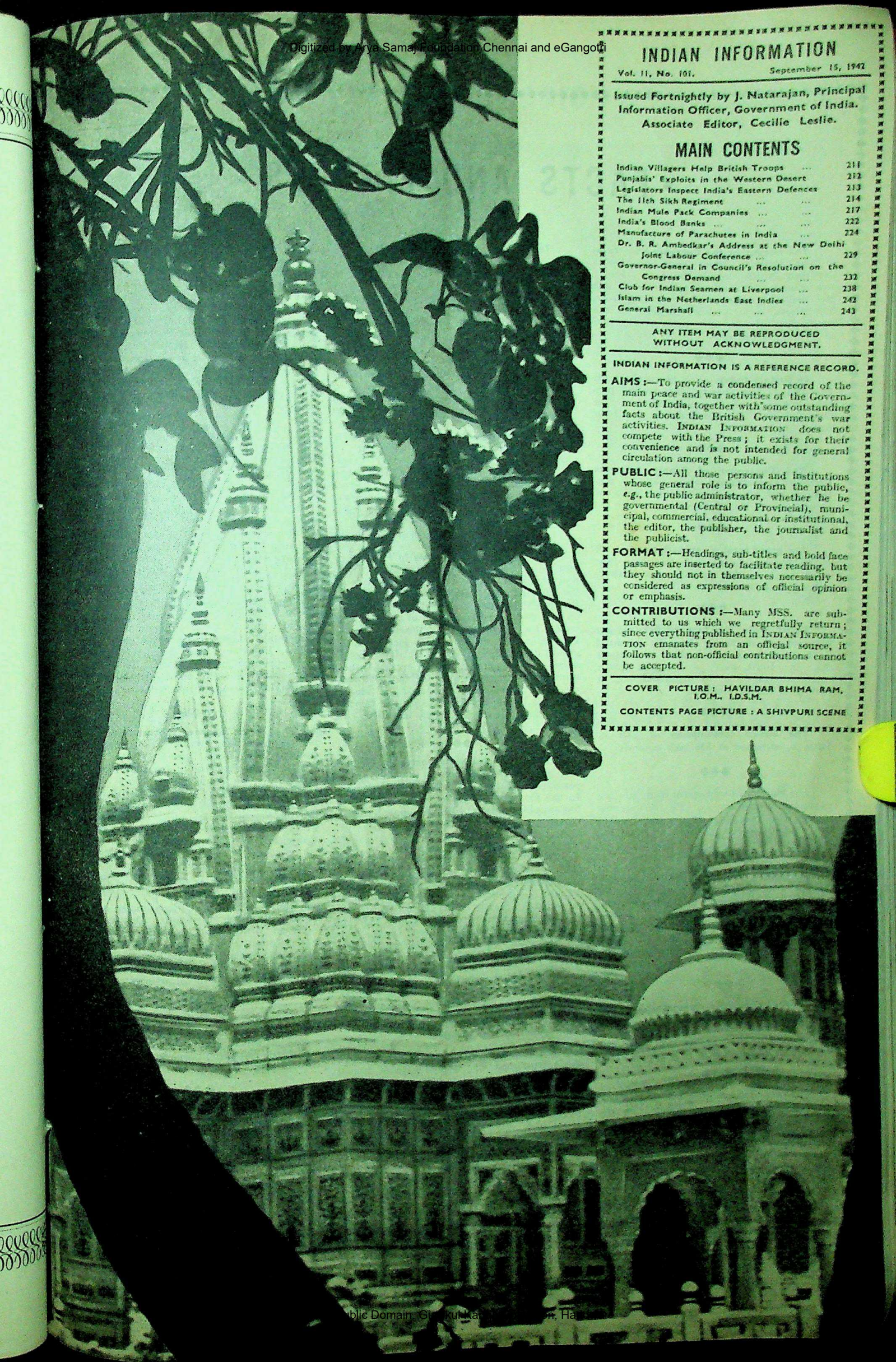
**PUBLIC :—**All those persons and institutions whose general role is to inform the public, e.g., the public administrator, whether he be governmental (Central or Provincial), municipal, commercial, educational or institutional, the editor, the publisher, the journalist and the publicist.

**FORMAT :—**Headings, sub-titles and bold face passages are inserted to facilitate reading, but they should not in themselves necessarily be considered as expressions of official opinion or emphasis.

**CONTRIBUTIONS :—**Many MSS. are submitted to us which we regretfully return; since everything published in **INDIAN INFORMATION** emanates from an official source, it follows that non-official contributions cannot be accepted.

COVER PICTURE : HAVILDAR BHIMA RAM,  
I.O.M., I.D.S.M.

CONTENTS PAGE PICTURE : A SHIVPURI SCENE





## ♦ FACTS AND FIGURES ♦

The output at the Currency Note Press of the Reserve Bank and Government Currency Notes during the year 1940-41 was about 595 million pieces as against 291 million pieces in the preceding year. The Press is at present engaged on the production of one-rupee notes at the rate of 2½ millions per day.

♦♦♦

In Britain today, every fit man between 18½ and 41 has already been drafted into the Forces, unless irreplaceable in an essential job. The age limit has now been raised to 51.

♦♦♦

The Controller of Supply Accounts (Supply Department) alone pays no less than 45,000 bills a month to the value of approximately Rs. 20 crores.

♦♦♦

The grand total of subscriptions to all Indian Defence Loans since they were first issued in June 1940 up to August 1, 1942, is Rs. 1,14,93,68,000.

♦♦♦

Apart from the four or five larger factories manufacturing basically essential products such as tyres, cables, etc., there are, in India, over a hundred minor concerns engaged in the manufacture of a variety of rubber products.

♦♦♦

The annual consumption of Salt in India is estimated at 530 lakh maunds.

♦♦♦

His Majesty's Government made sterling payments amounting to Rs. 258 crores during the year 1941-42 for recoverable war expenditure and purchases in India.

♦♦♦

The budget estimates for revenue for 1942-43 of all the eleven provinces of India in the aggregate amount to Rs. 104 crores, as compared with Rs. 166 crores in the revised estimates of 1941-42 and Rs. 97 crores in the accounts of 1940-41. Thus revenue has increased by 7 crores during the period.

♦♦♦

By the time the present ploughing programme in Great Britain is completed, nearly 6,000,000 acres will have been added to the total area of arable land since the war began.

♦♦♦

The largest suspension bridge in Latin America has just been completed by the Republic of El Salvador, thus linking the two American continents by a 14,000-mile pan-American highway.

The Government Telephones Board has acquired all the shares of the Bengal Telephone Corporation, 987 of the shares of the Bombay Telephone Company and over 70 per cent of the shares of the Madras Company. It is hoped that these concerns will be merged in the Posts and Telegraphs Department by 1943.

♦♦♦

So far 39,000 trainees have been enrolled under the Technical Training Scheme of the Labour Department. Of these 10,700 have completed their training, while 28,300 are still on the rolls. There are at present vacancies for another 11,000 candidates. Trainees, while under training, receive a monthly stipend of Rs. 22 if they are non-matriculates, or Rs. 27 if they are matriculates and are absorbed into industry, either private or Governmental, on completion of their training which lasts from six to twelve months.

♦♦♦

The signing of the Treaty of Friendship and Good Neighbourliness between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, is the latest example of the growing ties between the Arab States. Kuwait is situated south of Shatt al Arab on the north-western coast of the Persian Gulf. Its present ruler is Sheikh Ahmed Ibn Jabir Bin Mubarek who succeeded his grandfather, Salim, in 1921. The boundaries of Kuwait and Nejd (Central Arabia) were fixed by the Treaty of Mohammerah in 1921. The port of Kuwait is ideally suited to be the leading entrepot of Central trade and formerly it did in fact play this role.

♦♦♦

The Indian Seamen's hostel at Glasgow cost £10,000 and is to be retained as a permanent establishment after the war. In the first year of its existence, the hostel has supplied 20,000 beds and 200,000 Indian meals.

♦♦♦

Rescue Parties, which are provided in the scale of 10 parties per 10,000 population, are divided into two types—"Heavy" and "Light"—according to the equipment provided. This proportion of Light and Heavy parties is decided in the light of local conditions. Light Rescue Parties consist of 11 men, namely one leader, 3 skilled men (recruited, where possible, from the building trades), 6 unskilled men and one driver for the party lorry. Heavy Rescue Parties consist of 9 men, namely, one leader, 3 skilled men, 4 unskilled men and one driver for the party lorry.

♦♦♦

India can supply some 4,000 tons of dried fruit and 300 to 400 tons of tinned cheese. Production has been pepped up to 23,000 tons of dehydrated potatoes, and India can meet a demand for 62,000 Rennet tablets a year, some 1,000 tons of compressed vegetables, besides 5,000 tons of golden syrup—a new industry replacing the imported article—and some 2,500 tons of margarine.

The Governor-General in Council has sanctioned the creation of a new office under the Supply Department to be known as the Directorate-General of Ship Repairs and Ship Construction. This office will not form part of the Directorate-General of Munitions Production, but will correspond directly with the Main Secretariat of the Supply Department. It will be responsible to the Government of India, and in appropriate cases through the Government of India to His Majesty's Government, for all work connected with ship repairs and ship construction.

♦♦♦

With the enemy only 20 miles away, Britain is producing mighty weapons of war for herself and her Allies. Her production of planes now equals Germany's. She is producing 40,000 big guns a year, with 25,000,000 rounds of ammunition; and millions of small arms, with 2,000,000,000 rounds of ammunition. Add to this: ships, locomotives, tanks and a thousand types of military supplies.

♦♦♦

Since the beginning of the war over 300 Field Medical Units have been raised in India and are functioning in the United Kingdom, Middle East, East and West Africa, Palestine, Iraq, Iran, Ceylon, the Seychelles and in India itself. The medical field units rendered distinguished services in the Malaya and Burma campaigns.

♦♦♦

The Indian Seamen's Amenities Fund has recently been created at Calcutta and Bombay with initial grants of Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 5,000 respectively, from the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund. The object of this Fund is to supply to vessels carrying Indian crews books, games requisites, etc., and to provide amenities, including the supply of warm clothing, when necessary, to Indian seamen in general.

♦♦♦

Plywood factories in India have already started the manufacture of plywood drums on the lines of the models made at the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun. Plywood drums and containers may be widely adopted not only as a war-time expedient, but also in times of peace. They are easy to make and they should compete favourably with the metal articles.

♦♦♦

The total expenditure on the Defence Services in India during 1940-41 was Rs. 127 crores of which India's share was Rs. 73½ crores, the rest being borne by His Majesty's Government.

♦♦♦

7,000,000 women of Britain have already been registered and are being directed into war work: Unmarried women between 20 and 30 can be drafted into the uniformed forces.





FIT, WELL-TRAINED BRITISH SOLDIERS WHO ARRIVED IN INDIA IN THE BIG CONVOY RECENTLY ARE GREETED WITH "V" SIGN BY AN INDIAN VILLAGER

## INDIAN VILLAGERS HELP BRITISH TROOPS

**F**riendly and helpful attitude of Indian villagers to British troops is recorded in the diary of a British Officer who led a small party of troops on a long cross-country march in the Poona District. The march was undertaken at the height of the monsoon in order to harden up the men and to test the possibilities of living on the country.

Wherever the party moved, they found the villagers responsive to friendly approach. They readily provided food and shelter—on payment of course—and served as guides in the difficult country. Here are some extracts from the diary :—

### Cordial Farewells

*First day*—"Found ford impassable. Given tea by havildar of Sappers and Miners on two months' leave from Libya while *bandobast* made for boat seen on far bank. Boat arrived on our side with large reception party from ——. Crossing made amid cordial farewells from villagers.

"Foraging party went into village whilst bivouacs and fires were being made ready by the remainder. In village found bazar consisting of some six shops. At first our reception was cold. Having convinced the villagers of our willingness to pay and that we intended them no harm, our requirements were forthcoming. On return to bivouac we found other villagers from nearby homes. From them we bought chickens, eggs, milk and wood. Our supper was then cooked. It consisted of *chappattis*,

fried onion, one fried egg each, sweetened rice and tea."

*Second day*—"We climbed a pass 4,000 ft. high in torrential rain and, on reaching the summit, a thick mist limited visibility to a few yards. We intended descending by a track shown on the map, but were persuaded by three cowherds, who kindly chased after us, not to do so because that track now ends in a precipice. One of them guided us about 1,000 ft. down a path which was little more than a goat track. On looking back we found the side of the pass extremely precipitous and the barely distinguishable path down which we were guided was the only way down.

### Villager As Guide

"The rest of the descent was made through thick scrub to a village where a villager offered himself as a guide over the flooded rice-fields and a river. Without him the journey would undoubtedly have taken double the time. Foraging party went off to a village for food. Meanwhile, 12 villagers came out from a few houses near the wood and offered assistance. One in particular constituted himself 'bawarchi' and fire tender, which was a difficult job as we were only slightly sheltered from the rain. They also brought wood, food and cooking pots.

"The foraging party did extremely well. They had to cross two rivers, one at least 50 yards wide, to reach the village

some two miles away. A villager showed them the only crossing place where, even so, the water was waist deep. They eventually returned over the same route in complete darkness with rice, flour, ghee, onions and biscuits. Our mileage this day was 20."

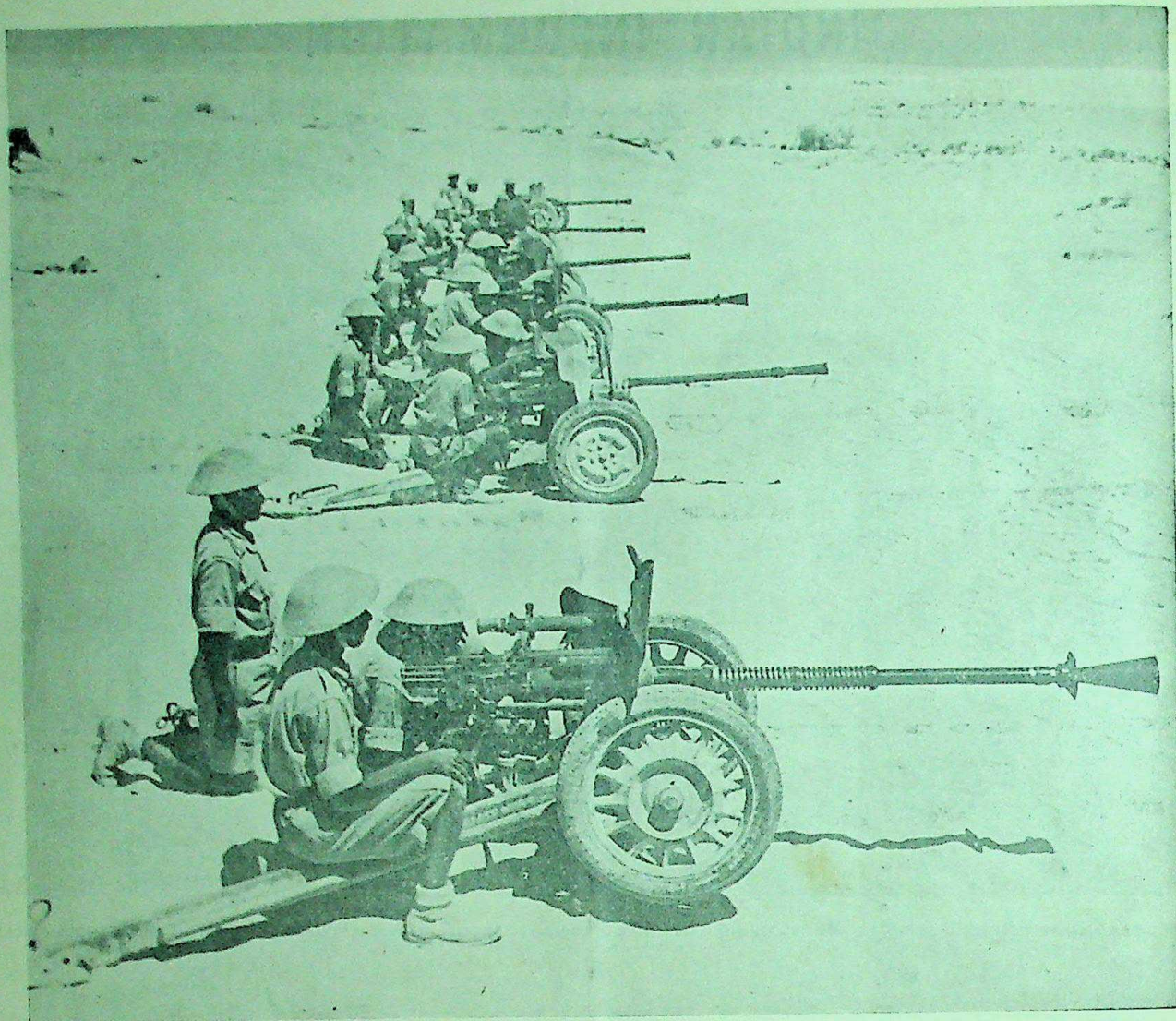
### Gift For A Shrine

*Third day*—"We halted at — and, after the villagers had overcome their initial reserve, we were invited to shelter. The 'patel' then came along and proved extremely helpful. He soon had eggs, milk, and a stove for us, with boiling water for an immediate issue of tea. The villagers collected to watch our cooking and eating and Cpl. — then made a name for himself as a doctor. His 'sick parade' among the villagers was about six strong and his efficient treatment undoubtedly assisted the extremely friendly attitude of the villagers."

*Fourth day*—"We marched off, having left a little gift of money at the local shrine. This act delighted the villagers."

The diary concludes :—"We did not appear to strain the village resources, even having to refuse offers of eggs and fruits. Prices were very reasonable. This march was accomplished with one officer speaking Urdu, but no one having knowledge of Marathi, except a few words."





SOLDIERS OF A FAMOUS INDIAN REGIMENT PRACTISING WITH THEIR ANTI-TANK GUNS IN THE WESTERN DESERT

## PUNJABIS IN ACTION IN WESTERN DESERT

In its first engagement of the kind, a battalion of a Punjab Regiment has put up a fine performance against Panzer troops, writes an Indian Army Observer.

This battalion had already been under fire at Tmimi, in the Western Desert, where it fought a rearguard action in the withdrawal to Gazala; but that, as one of the men said, was a "tamasha" compared with their recent experiences on Ruweisat Ridge.

Artillery and Stukas plastered every yard of the positions they held, tanks pounded at them, but the Punjabis stood firm and held their ground.

After General Auchinleck's withdrawal to the Alamein positions he gradually gathered strength and reorganised his forces. Finally he felt strong enough to take the initiative and probe the enemy's defences for weak points.

The Punjab battalion was chosen as the spearhead of the operations on the Ruweisat Ridge. Early on July 21 they marched six miles to their forming-up place. They were enthusiastic and in high spirits at the thought of attacking the enemy after all this withdrawal.

Zero hour was 8.30 p.m. that day, when the artillery put up a heavy barrage.

The battalion advanced and continued steadily in spite of heavy defensive fire by the Germans.

As the men approached their objective, anti-tank guns and machine-guns opened fire to stem their advance. Finally, fire became so intense that the men could not move a yard without being hit. They were then within 400 yards of their objective.

Here they stopped. It was now dark except for the flashes of guns and trail of tracers. In their advance they had encountered enemy outposts and had cleared them efficiently, taking more than a hundred prisoners.

The situation was somewhat confused, as may be judged from the experience of one of the men. As fire intensified, he jumped into a slit trench which was already occupied, and told the occupant to make room. The man either did not understand or paid no heed. The Punjabi angrily shouted at him to move to one side. The next moment he heard something like "Hindian?" from his neighbour, who thereupon jumped out and ran. He was a German and fell to his own comrades' bullets.

Next day the objective was taken, but the battalion remained under constant shell fire. Stuka dive-bombers did their

worst, yet they stood firm. The men, as one of the officers said, were exceptionally cool and steady under very heavy fire.

Every man in the battalion showed up well in this action. The Signallers had a particularly hard job, but they did it very pluckily, especially Naik Hazara Singh. To maintain contact with the Brigade, four telephone lines were laid along the ridge. This work was done under shell-fire. While most of the battalion were in their slit trenches, the Signallers carried on without any cover whatsoever. Again and again the cable broke when hit by shells. The Signallers were always on the job and no amount of fire could interrupt communications for long.

**"But This Is War..."**

Though casualties were not very heavy, there was quite a number on the night of the attack. The Regimental Aid Post worked marvels. The Doctor, who was wounded but carried on, speaks enthusiastically of the work of Raghbir Singh, stretcher-bearer, and Abdul Wahid, nursing orderly, neither of whom would take shelter while their comrades needed them. Going out repeatedly into the shell-strewn area, Raghbir Singh brought in the wounded. Abdul Wahid also ran considerable risks in order to bandage and care for the casualties.

Throughout this trying period the men had behaved splendidly but there was a moment when they were almost stupefied. The Regiment suffered a great loss, said a V.C.O. with tears in his eyes, when shell killed the Commanding Officer.

"But this is war," said the V.C.O., "and we carry on as he would have wanted us to do."



# INDIA'S DEFENCES INSPECTED BY LEGISLATORS

The Defence Consultative Committee of the Central Legislature consisting of the Hon'ble Pundit H. N. Kunzru, Hon'ble Sardar Buta Singh, Sir Frederick James, Mr. Hooseinbhoj A. Lalljee, Mr. Jamnadas Mehta, Mr. Deshmukh and Mr. Ghias-ud-Din have just completed an extensive tour of inspection of the Coastal Defences and other military installations in Eastern India.

The tour included visits to various defended localities, munition and armament production factories, aerodromes, steel producing factories and workshops.

## Members Impressed

Members were particularly impressed by the state of preparedness attained by our forces guarding the Eastern Gateway of India, the abundance of modern equipment, and the keen spirit of the individual soldier. They saw for themselves the intensive and exhaustive training which our forces are undergoing day and night—a training, which according to one member, will make them second to none in the world. They were delighted to see the spirit of comradeship and contentment which exists between the Indian and British troops who live and learn together as comrades in arms.

One military commander revealed that his men are as "keen as mustard" to have a crack at the enemy if he chooses to set foot on Indian soil.

## Air Force Demonstration

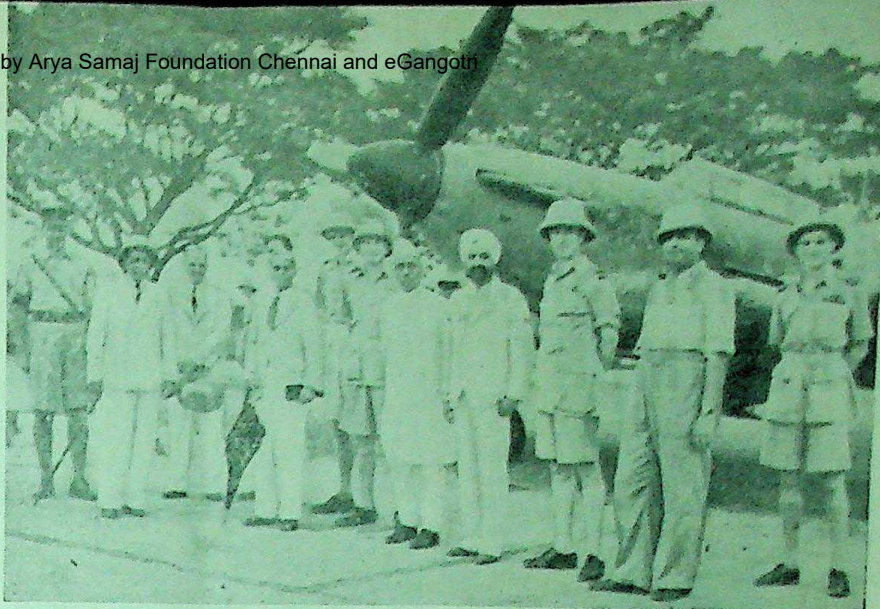
Indian aircrews manning the very latest types of planes gave spectacular demonstrations of the high standard of their training to members of the Defence Consultative Committee.

At one station the members inspected a squadron which is partly Indian and partly British, and chatted with a bomber crew of which the pilot is an Indian Squadron-Leader and the observer an Indian Pilot Officer. At another station some young fighter pilots showed the members just how quickly they could turn out and take off for combat.

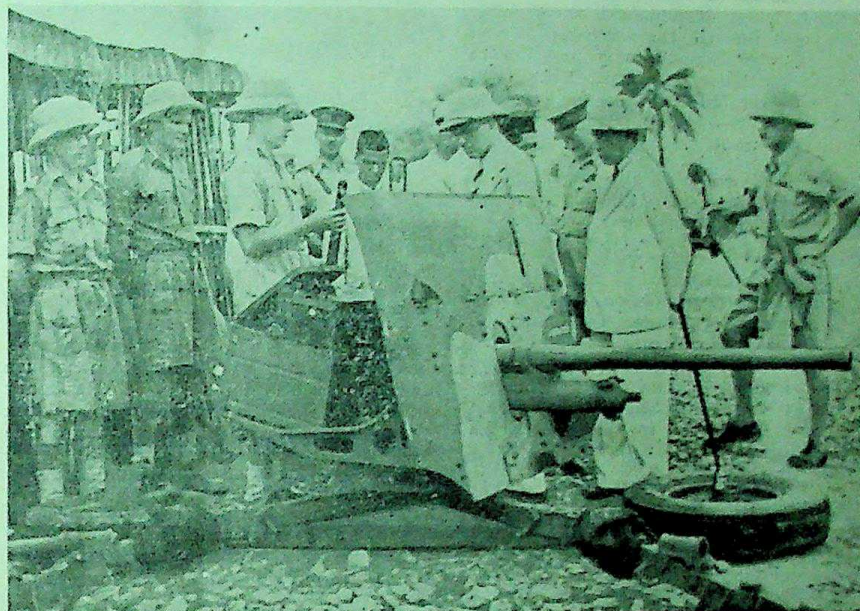
The Committee was deeply impressed by the completeness of preparations against the possibility of a Japanese attack, and by the numbers and quality of aircraft now on service in this country.

Members displayed great interest in the modern methods of munition production and other implements of war. They were deeply impressed by the rapidly expanding arsenals for democracy, and the daily increasing figures of production.

Individual members expressed their satisfaction at all they had seen and said that the tour had been instructive and comprehensive. They were very pleased to see that both the Indian munition worker and soldier are making and using the most modern weapons of war.

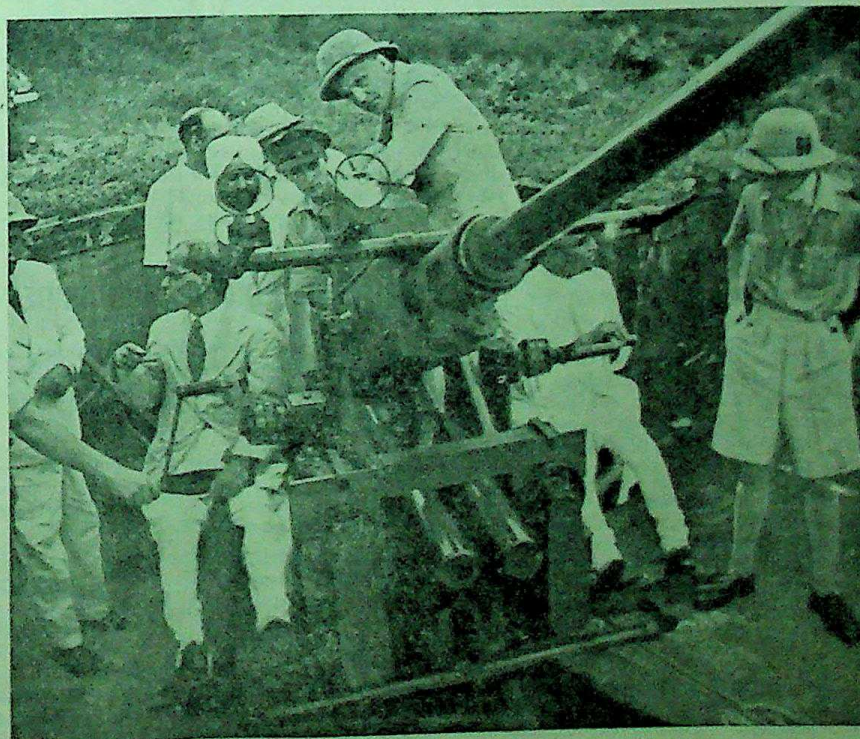


THE DEFENCE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE VISIT A FIGHTER SQUADRON IN EASTERN INDIA



THE LEGISLATORS EXAMINE AN ANTI-TANK GUN

MEMBERS OF THE DEFENCE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MAN AN ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN





## FAMOUS INDIAN REGIMENTS—

By Sir Patrick Cadell

THE 11TH SIKH  
REGIMENT

In the rout of the Italians from the Sudan to Abyssinia, it was a brilliant flank attack by a battalion of the 11th Sikh Regiment at Keru that caused the enemy to retire in the greatest disorder to Agordat.

The same battalion shared in the grim and bitter fighting that lasted seven weeks at Keren. In the first battle there, it did vital service in the assault on the Italian left flank, where it remained continuously in the front line till the successful second battle. It was there that a young Muslim officer of the battalion, Lieut. Mohammad Siddiq, won the Military Cross for the manner in which, though wounded, he led his men in the assault on the Samanna Ridge.

The Regiment was also engaged in Iraq and Iran, where a difficult situation was faced with boldness and courage.

In the fierce fighting with the Germans and Italians in Cyrenaica, the regiment has won further distinction, particularly in the capture of Derna. One battalion rushed the aerodrome there with the bayonet, capturing an enemy convoy and many prisoners, and putting out of action numerous enemy air-craft. This dashing action enabled the Brigade to take the town without further trouble.

**"Disciplined Steadiness"**

So far as the outside world is concerned, the Sikhs are, perhaps, the most widely known of all the fighting races of India.

Religious sects in other countries, such as the Cameronians in Scotland, have produced good soldiers who were ready to fight to death, rather than tamely submit to the extinction of their tenets. No other religious community, however, has depended to such an extent on its military character for its continued existence as the Sikhs. No one can be enrolled as a Sikh until he has been initiated into the faith, and the Sikh regiments of the Indian Army have been the strongest supporters of this ceremony. Some of the glamour of the Sikh soldiers may come from their fine appearance; still more from the great fight which the Khalsa Army, the Army of the Pure, made against the British forces in the Punjab Wars.

The deeds of the Sikh soldiers, however, after their enlistment in the Indian Army, are sufficient foundation for their reputation. In Afghanistan and in the Sudan, where, at McNeill's Zareba, the 2nd Battalion displayed the virtue of disciplined steadiness, the battalions showed their worth. Even more so, perhaps, in the numerous expeditions against the tribes on the Frontier, where religious feeling gave an added zest to the fighting.

Of the Sikh Regiment, half the battalions are entirely Sikh, and half contain also Punjabi Mahomedans, the comrades of the Sikhs in the old Khalsa Army. There have always been Sikh Companies in many other Infantry Regiments, and Sikh squadrons in the Cavalry, to say nothing of three battalions of Sikh Pioneers.

The Sikhs have particularly distinguished themselves in the defence of small garrisons and posts—successfully



A BREN CARRIER MANNED BY SIKHS PASSES SIKH ANTI-TANK GUNNERS IN WESTERN DESERT

where success was possible; if it was not, then fighting to the last man. Among such incidents was the defence of the Residency at Kabul by the Sikh troopers of the Guides; of the Fort at Chitral by a company of the 1st Battalion; and of the Post at Saragarhi by a party of the 4th Battalion.

In the war of 1914-1918, the service of the Regiment was far-flung from France to China. In the latter country the 4th Battalion joined in the reduction of the German stronghold of Tsingtao.

Enormous losses were suffered by its battalions in some of their battles in France; the 2nd and 5th at Neuve Chapelle and Ypres, the 1st at Gallipoli, and the 3rd and 4th near Kut-al-Amara. It is characteristic of the stubborn fighting spirit of the Sikh community that recruitment, somewhat sluggish in the first stages of the war, increased immediately the news of the heavy losses reached India. For its service in this war, the 2nd Battalion earned the distinction of being called Royal.

With such a record, it was to be expected that in this war the Sikh Regiment would be given, and would take full advantage of, the opportunity offered for further distinction.

**"THIS TIME ON WINNING SIDE"**

Among the East African troops in Ceylon—fine, sturdy warriors, fresh from their victories in Italian Somaliland and Abyssinia—are several veterans of the last war.

This time they have volunteered again—all the men have come forward of their own accord—and there is one important difference: they are fighting on our side.

These old soldiers know what it is to be under the German heel, for last time they were fighting against the British in Tanganyika. One of them still carries the scar of a bullet wound in his heel as a tribute to the accuracy of British marksmanship.

"Once on losing side plenty. This time on winning side," they say when questioned about their previous service.

**HE WAS A "PATHAN  
OFF TO THE WAR"**

A mile or two outside Abbottabad a senior General Staff Officer on tour came upon the scene of an accident. A lorry containing sepoy on its way to the railhead at Havelian had overturned and thrown them out.

The majority of the sepoy suffered from cuts and other injuries, but they were all in the highest spirits, declaring that they were "on their way to the war," and that was all that mattered.

Pressed by the Officer, they reluctantly admitted that one man might be "slightly hurt." This seemed to be something of an under-statement in view of the fact that he appeared, from a layman's examination, to be suffering from a number of injuries, including a suspected fractured collar-bone.

**Officer's Suggestion**

The Officer suggested that the man should be sent back to hospital, but this met with the stubborn disapproval of the Pathan N.C.O. in charge of the party, who said the man would be bitterly disappointed when he woke up and found that he had "missed the war."

The Staff Officer was about to insist that the man should be sent back when the matter was settled by the sepoy himself. Recovering consciousness, he had overheard the conversation, and crawled into a relief truck with his companions.

From this position he proclaimed, feebly but extremely firmly, that he was a "Pathan off to the war," and that he certainly was NOT going back to Abbottabad.

The Officer allowed the sepoy to have the last word.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1942



# ALLIED AIR ACTIVITIES OVER BURMA

Persistent attacks on railways, roads and rivers in enemy occupation, coupled with intensive activity in feeding civilian populations from the air were the chief features of the activities of the Allied Air Forces over Burma during July.

The extent to which Allied aircraft have been engaged in the mercy errand of food dropping is shown by the fact that British, American and Chinese aircraft have carried and dropped approximately 430 tons of foodstuffs and other essential supplies, including medical necessities. Day after day the crews of the United Nations have been busy in this life-saving task.

At the same time the Japanese who have shown very little aerial activity themselves, have been kept ever on the alert by constant attacks on their lines of communication.

## Enemy Base Attacked

For instance, Kalewa, their base in the valley of the Chindwin River, has been bombed and machine-gunned roughly a dozen times, troops being attacked, while in the early days of the month other troops in and near Kalembo, near the Chindwin, and buildings in the town were subjected to strong bombing and strafing.

Railway communications have several times been the target for the day, one of the most important operations of this character being carried out on July 27, when Blenheims attacked the main Mandalay-Rangoon line, the station at Thazi and the marshalling yards at Mandalay being the chief objectives. It was established that some especially deadly bombing in these attacks did considerable damage to the permanent way and station buildings. Fires were started in buildings, hits seen on trucks and the line, and there were near misses on locomotives.

On another occasion the British aircraft made a sweep over a number of stations. When mechanical transport in the Chindwin Valley was the target sharp anti-aircraft fire was experienced.

## Much-Battered Akyab

The much-battered west coast port of Akyab, centre of so much R.A.F. activity in May and June, was attacked four more times in July, much damage being observed, notably among riverside buildings devoted to boat and sampan construction. Steamers on the waterways near the port together with the aerodrome came in for bombing or machine-gunning.

Co-operating with the British Squadrons in increasing measure, bombers of the American Army Air Corps have made the aerodrome at Myitkyina and the barracks there, one of their chief objectives and the American airmen have also several times attacked the railway at Mogaung, between Mandalay and Myitkyina.

Thus the monsoon has not been allowed to interfere with the work of the Allied Air Forces to any marked extent.



AN INDIAN PILOT OFF ON A RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHT OVER THE SEA

## M. C. FOR ENGINEER WHO ACTED AS STEAMER CAPTAIN

Immediate award of the Military Cross to Captain John Smellie Murie for conspicuous gallantry and great powers of leadership during the operations in Burma has now been confirmed.

Captain Murie, who was an Engineer Officer with the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company and Inland Water Transport, volunteered to take charge as steamer captain during operations at Prome. He worked continuously in the forward areas on the Irrawaddy and Chindwin rivers until the termination of operations at Sittang last May. During the operations between Shwegyin and Kalewa, he and his crew worked continuously day and night in face of air and land attacks, ferrying troops, animals and vehicles.

It was largely due to his example that the intensive service by his and other steamers was maintained and personnel and animals of the army were able to cross the Chindwin River.

## AWARDS FOR GALLANTRY IN THE WESTERN DESERT

The following immediate awards have been granted for gallantry in action in the Western Desert :—

**BAR TO DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER.**—Lieut.-Colonel Arthur Charles Taylor, D.S.O., Baluch Regiment.

**BAR TO MILITARY CROSS.**—Captain Francis William Courtney, M.C., Royal Fusiliers.

**MILITARY CROSS.**—Captain Simon Anthony Cunningham Trestrail, Sikh Regiment.



## DEATH OF GROUP CAPTAIN FOWLER

### WORK IN I.O.C. RECALLED

The death of Group Captain I. G. V. Fowler, reported about the beginning of July, is a severe blow to the Indian Observer Corps, writes a fellow officer of the late Group Captain.

Group Captain Fowler joined the Indian Observer Corps in August 1940, coming out to India as an expert on the system of detection of approaching enemy aircraft, having been for five years engaged with the Royal Observer Corps in England. His special knowledge of this sphere of warfare fitted him for the very important task of building an organisation similar to the Observer Corps in Britain. Arriving in Simla, he entered wholeheartedly into his new appointment. He immediately toured the North-West Area and Baluchistan, areas which were then considered most likely to be open to air attack and by September, 1940, less than two months after his arrival in India, had mapped out a scheme which would give the areas concerned an Observer system on a par with that in England. By May, 1941, he had his organisation functioning in these areas. It was only by his great personal effort, keen interest and the vigour he infused into everything he did that he was able to accomplish this tremendous task in so short a time.

The shifting of the threat to Eastern India in October, 1941, called from him a further effort. He gave of his energy unstintingly and it is probable that the heavy demands made on him in Bengal undermined his health. His duties took him into the far corners of Assam and down the coast to the South. Despite the tropical heat of these areas, he did not flinch and was an example of keenness to many a younger officer. His personal interest in the work of the I.O.C. in Bengal, and his eagerness to get things done, was responsible for the early completion of the organisation in and round Calcutta. The high state of efficiency of the Indian Observer Corps today is largely due to his great work and enthusiasm.

#### A Pioneer

Group Captain Fowler was a pioneer not only in this war but also in the last. He started flying as a civilian as far back as 1911 and later joined the Royal Naval Air Service. It was for his pioneer work in undertaking the hazards of flying aircraft off the decks of battleships in the early days of the last war that he was awarded the Air Force Cross. He saw service in Transjordan and subsequently retired with the rank of Group Captain. He rejoined the Service just before the outbreak of the present war. He had two sons in the Royal Air Force. One lost his life night flying before the war; the other is a Flying Officer. His passing is deeply regretted by the officers and men of the Indian Observer Corps who offer their sincere sympathy to his widow.

### INDIAN STATES AND TECHNICAL TRAINING SCHEME

There are 51 centres in Indian States which have been approved for training technicians under the Government of India's Technical Training Scheme.

Four candidates from the Indian States were included in the fifth batch of trainees sent to England under the Bevin Training Scheme. So far, 16 trainees have been sent from the States.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1942



From a camouflaged pit these Mahratta observers scan the sky for hostile aircraft over the aerodrome they guard

## NEW TRAINING TO TOUGHEN UP ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNNERS

Experience of Japanese infiltration tactics in Malaya and Burma has shown that anti-aircraft units must be able to give a good account of themselves in ground fighting as well as against enemy airmen.

The men who use the Bofors are proving that they are quick to master the bayonet. At one Anti-Aircraft Reserve Regiment in India the gunners have prepared a most elaborate assault course in order to "toughen up" in preparation for the day when the guns rumble back into Burma.

Designed on the lines of a school obstacle race, but very much more complicated, the course consists of a series of "hazards" planned to bring out qualities of courage, endurance, cool thinking and steady nerve.

#### Training

In order to cultivate a sense of balance, and facilitate the speedy crossing of streams, the gunners have to run along baulks of wood only the width of a railway line, and rising to a height of six feet above the ground. Then they clear a number of hurdles, and get down (or perhaps up would be more appropriate) to really serious business.

A 10-foot brick wall, with a smooth face, has to be scaled without assistance. Safely on the ground on the opposite side, the gunners again go aloft, this time by means of a rope, monkey fashion, into a tree.

Jumping from a platform 12 feet above the ground, they have to clear two water obstacles, each one six feet in width, and

divided by only one foot of brickwork, so a steady eye as well as plenty of energy is required if a ducking is to be avoided.

Then, just to make sure that they have not lost any of the sense of balance learned at the beginning, there are more wooden baulks to run along, while a 100-yard sprint back to the starting point rounds off the operation.

At first the course is tackled in gym shoes and P.T. kit. Later it is completed in full marching order, carrying a rifle and bayonet. And the time allowed for this incidental part of a gunner's training is 90 seconds!

### TRIBUTE TO GURKHAS AND MAHRATTAS

In a letter to the *Glasgow Herald* (July 22) Lady Helen Graham writes: "All who have an interest in the 11th Indian Brigade will have felt grateful to your special correspondent who gave a first-hand account of the superb defence put up by the Gurkhas, the Mahrattas and the Cameron Highlanders when the enemy swept into Tobruk. At the very moment when Indian politicians were seeking at all costs to prove that Britain and India can no longer serve together, in Tobruk three regiments with the finest traditions behind them proved by deeds—not words—that they can still not only serve but stand and die together as brothers-in-arms."





MULE CARTS, DRIVEN BY INDIANS, CARRY MATERIALS FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION IN MOUNTAINOUS COUNTRY

## INDIAN MULE PACK COMPANIES

Several Indian Mule Pack Companies have been formed and are now operating in the Middle East. Their essential function is to carry supplies to places such as very mountainous country where motor transport cannot reach.

In the Lebanon, they are being used to carry materials for defence works and the roads in the mountains.

Many of the Indians are Kumaonis and Garhwalis, hillmen from the Nepal and Tibet borders, respectively. In peacetime they are small farmers and are all Brahmins or Rajputs, the highest castes in India, and have been fighters for generations. Each man has two mules to look after, either pack or draft, and soon makes them his friends. The men take a great interest in their charges and keep them in the best of condition.



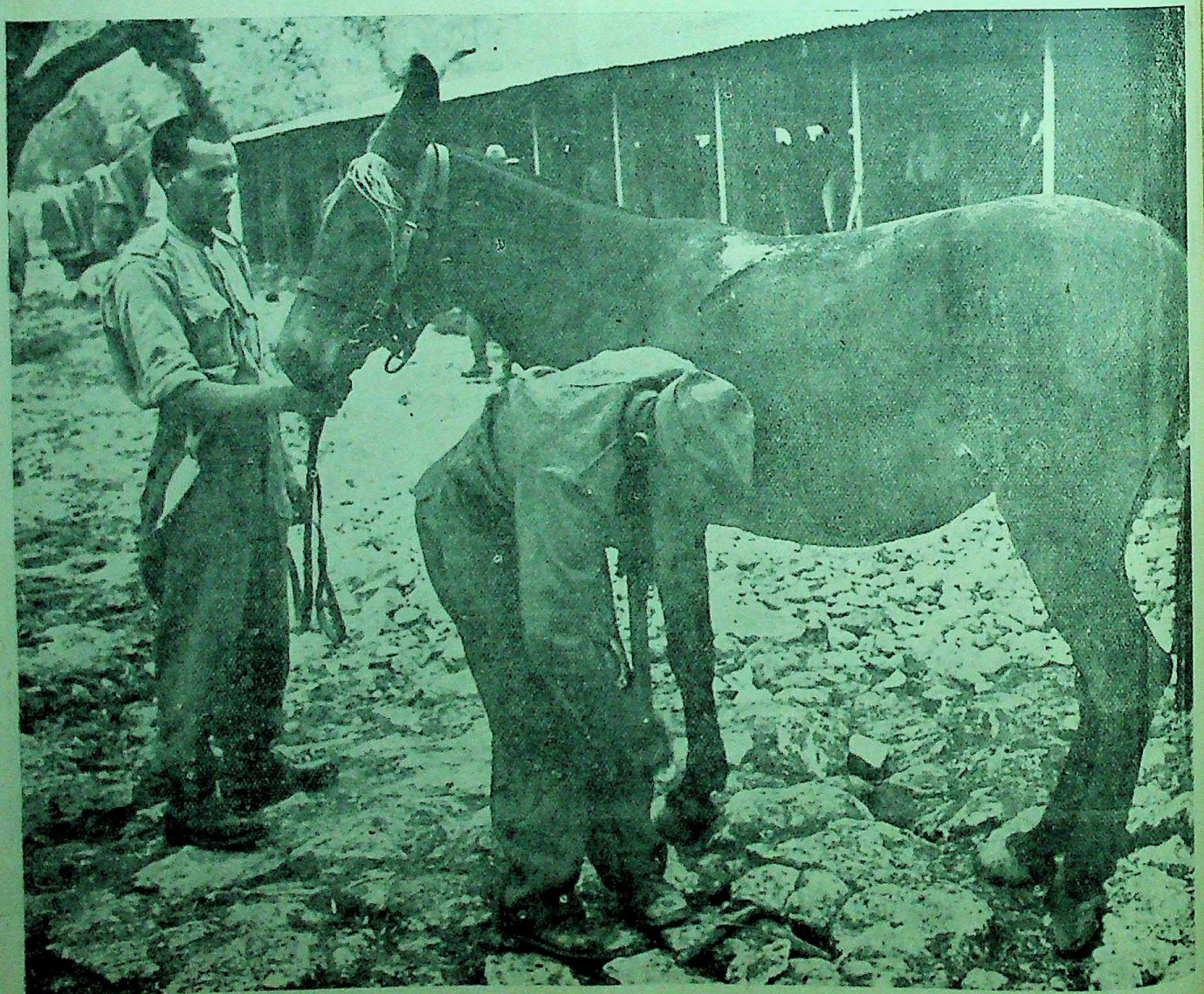
ONE OF THE MULE PACK COMPANIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST PASSING THROUGH A VILLAGE





HAND-SLAPPING FORMS PART OF THE GROOMING OF THE MULES, AND THIS DEVELOPS THE ANIMALS' BACK MUSCLES

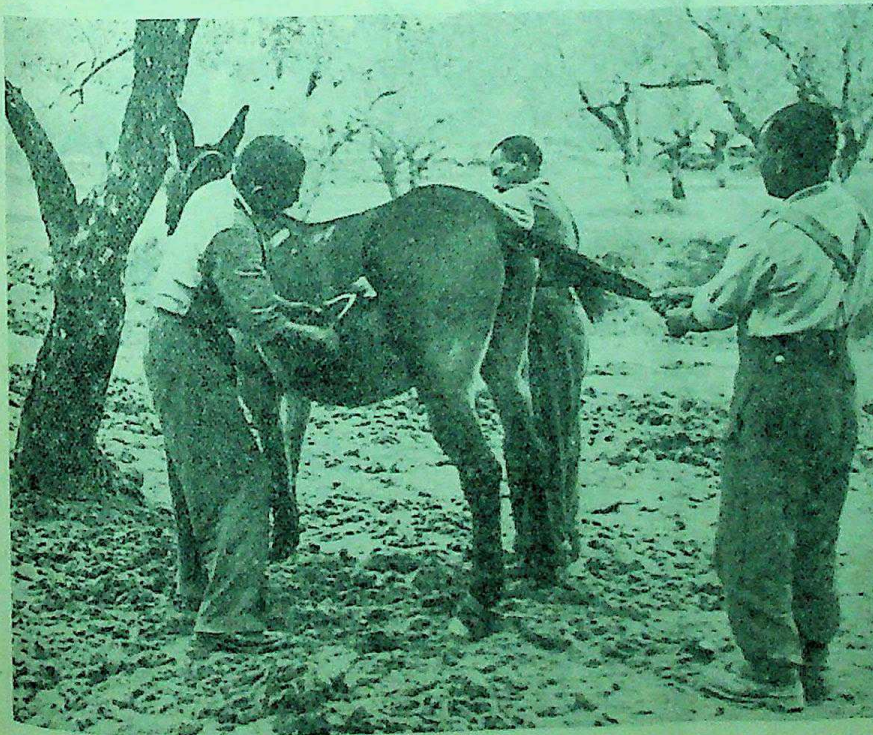
A BLACKSMITH IS HERE SHOEING A MULE AT ONE OF THE MULE PACK COMPANIES' CAMPS







EACH MULE COMPANY HAS ITS VETERINARY DOCTOR. OPENING THE MULE'S MOUTH TO ADMINISTER MEDICINE



THE MULE HAS TO BE HANDLED CAREFULLY WHILE CLIPPING



This mule is ill : The Vet. inserts the stomach pump



MULES ARE TAKEN TO WATER TROUGHS



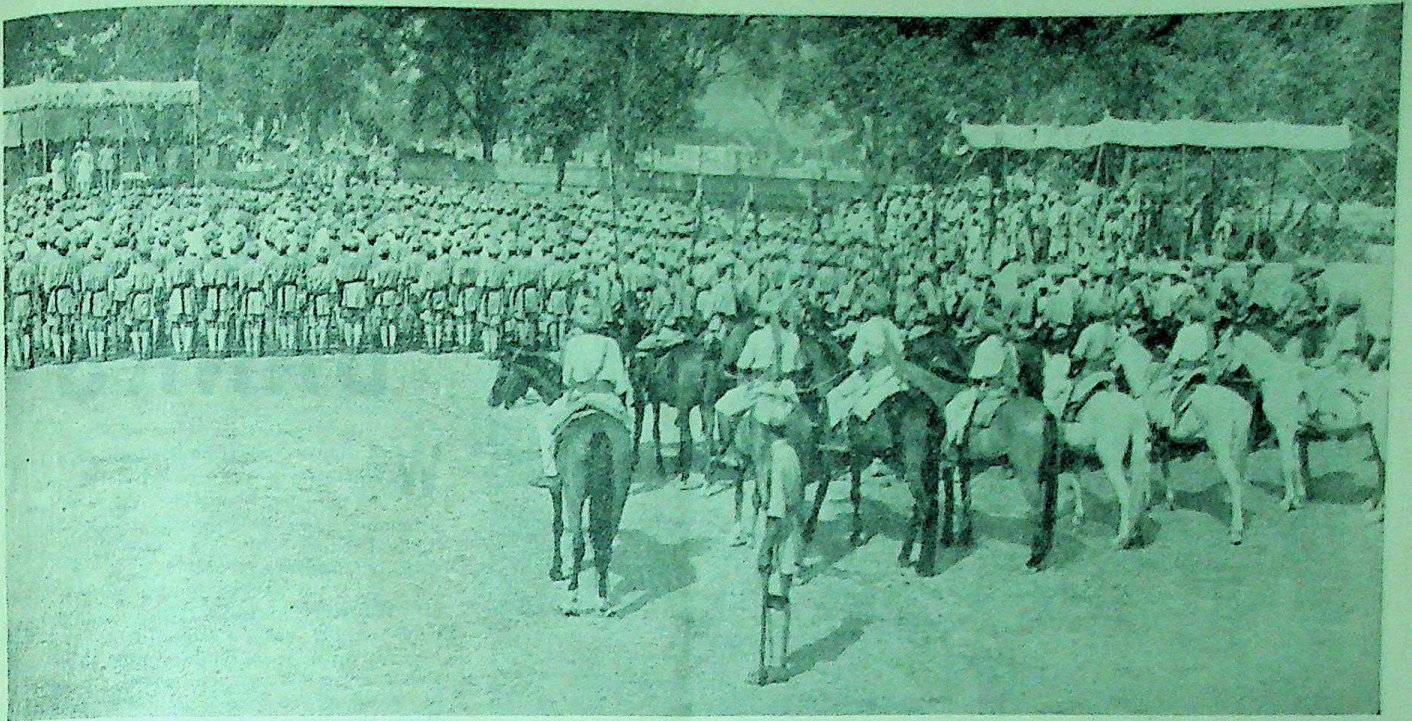


AFTER THE DAY'S HARD WORK THE MULES ENJOY A DRINK AT THEIR WATER TROUGHS



END OF A MULE'S DAY—A FEED HE HAS EARNED





PARADE OF THE ALWAR STATE'S CIVIC GUARDS AND TROOPS ON THE OCCASION OF UNITED NATIONS FLAG DAY

## VISUAL AIR RAID WARNING SIGNAL

A system of visual air raid warning signals used in Chungking (and for some time in Burma) may be adopted in India, if considered practicable by Provincial Governments.

This visual signal (which is intended to supplement the siren) consists of a red globe 6 ft. in diameter, made of bamboo and painted fabric, which is hauled up a mast on receipt of the air raid warning and lowered when the raiders have passed. At night a red light (shaded above) replaces the globe. Often, the globe is situated at the same point as the siren and is operated with it. It can also be erected outside police posts or at main street corners.

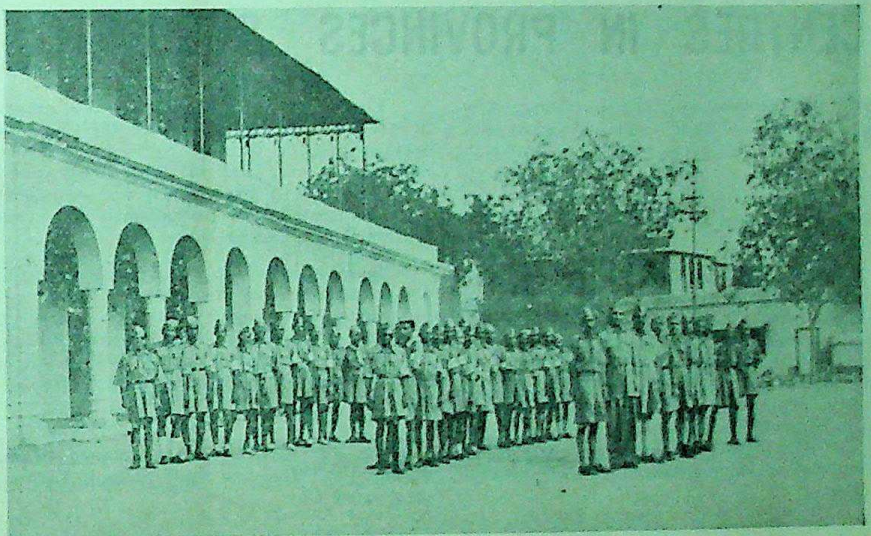
It is considered to be particularly useful in ports, where visual signalling is well understood and the siren may fail to reach shipping in the harbour.

### A Continuous Indication

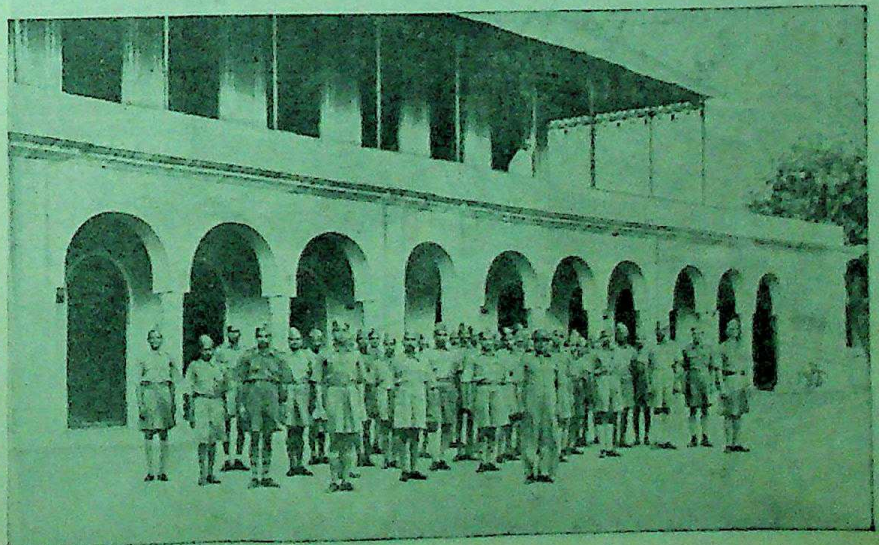
The signal, it is considered, has the advantage of being a continuous indication to those in doubt as to whether an air raid warning is in force at any moment; but local conditions, terrain, etc., have to be taken into account. Chungking is hilly and visible points are, therefore, more easily selected than in the plains of India.

"Various types of possible visual signals will suggest themselves"—says a circular issued by the Civil Defence Department, Government of India, to all Provincial Governments—"and a red globe could easily be replaced by two solid circles of wood or other material fixed at right angles to each other and painted red. These, from all angles, give the impression of a red disc."

"The idea is circulated in case any Provincial Government wish to take it up. The Government of India would be grateful for any experience gained as to its value in India."



AMBULANCE BRIGADE FIRST AIDERS LINE UP FOR INSPECTION



POST AND DEPUTY POST WARDENS OF THE ALWAR A.R.P. ORGANISATION





A. R. P. IN FACTORIES—BATANAGAR RESCUE SERVICE SETS TO WORK

## SPECIALIST A. R. P. INSTRUCTION CENTRES IN PROVINCES SUGGESTED

The Government of India have suggested to provinces that specialist instruction centres be added to their own provincial A.R.P. schools. At these schools, the teaching given at the new Civil Defence Specialist School in Lahore can be disseminated.

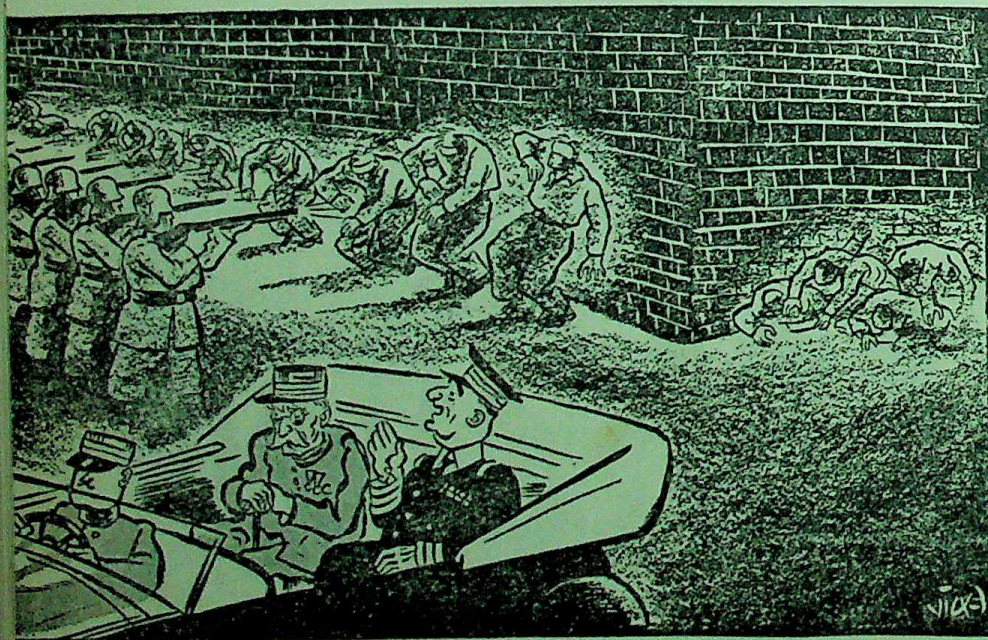
Obviously, this single School at Lahore cannot train in a short time the large number of A.R.P. Staff Officers and Instructors required for the whole country. Its first object, therefore, will be to train specialist instructors who on their return to the Provinces will, if they have passed an examination at the School, be considered qualified to instruct local instructors or members of their Service in their special duties.

There will be three wings to the Lahore School:—(a) Wardens Service. (b) Casualty Service and (c) Rescue Service; and the School proposes, if the Punjab Government agree, to run a practical rescue squad of its own instructors to go into action in Lahore if raids occur there.

The Commandant (Dr. P. G. Horsburgh, G.M.) and Staff of this Central School will not teach mere theory; they are nearly all men who have been through heavy raiding conditions in England and will have practical ideas, learned by hard experience, to impart.

The first course began on August 31.

No. 13 (A.R.P. officers') course began at the Civil Defence Staff School, Lahore, on August 10.



"MON DIEU! I WAS AFRAID IT WAS MY BACK TYRE"

# INDIA'S BLOOD BANKS

With the arrival from Britain of a large quantity of blood transfusion apparatus, together with expert personnel, the balance-sheets of India's "blood banks" show a very satisfactory state of affairs.

The story of India's blood banks goes back to 1932, when a panel of blood donors was set up in each military unit, but early this year it became obvious that a scheme of thorough reorganisation was essential. With the threat of enemy action against India, and the possibility of civilian casualties, the blood bank could no longer be regarded primarily as a military concern, and a system of co-operation between Service and Civilian authorities was devised.

While large supplies of apparatus and personnel were being despatched from the United Kingdom, the extreme urgency of the problem made the initiation of local service imperative. A joint scheme for the setting up of blood banks on a basis of collaboration between the Military and Civilian authorities was put into operation last April.

### Treatment Of Shock

This has been most successful, and the arrival of substantial aid from Britain, with the promise of more to come, makes the position a satisfactory one.

By a course of lectures, given by experts drawn from military and civilian sources, a knowledge of the treatment of shock arising from wounds has been widely disseminated to doctors specially charged with this form of life-saving.

A simple apparatus for transfusion or infusion purpose has been designed, and is now in production in India. It is being issued to military and civilian medical institutions on a generous scale.

The aim of the authorities is to achieve within a short space of time a high standard of education among medical men on matters of resuscitation, and to bring about a situation in which plasma, or serum, apparatus and skilled personnel are available for every case requiring a blood transfusion.

### PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF INDIAN STATE TROOPS

It is understood that all Indian States (except two) which have units on active service have agreed to pay their recruits serving with His Majesty's Forces at Indian Army rates of pay, and the two remaining States have been asked to increase their rates.

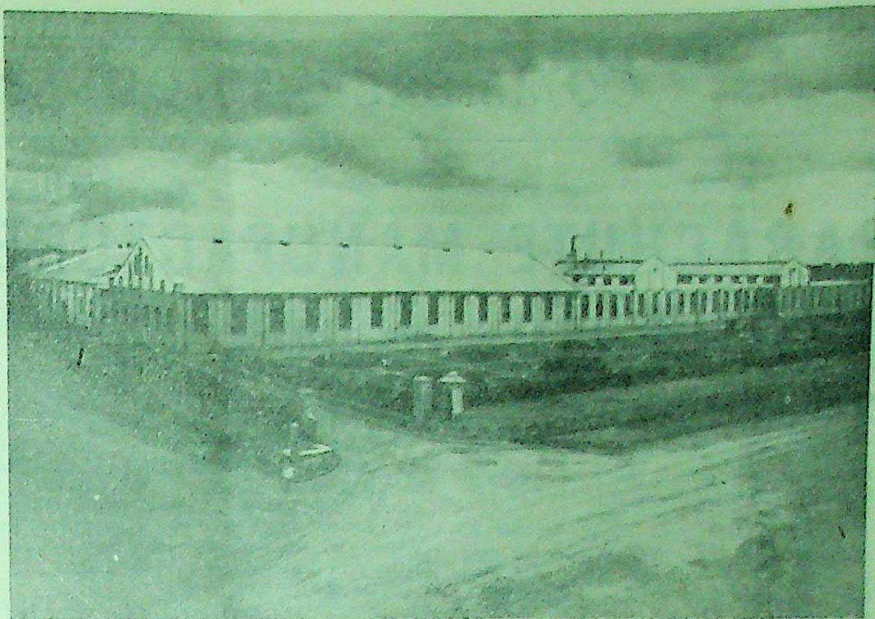
In order to help in deciding which personnel of the Indian States Forces should receive post-war awards, whatever form these may take, the Officer commanding every Indian State Forces unit serving under the Crown is maintaining notes of any details of gallant conduct and good work in respect of each man under him.



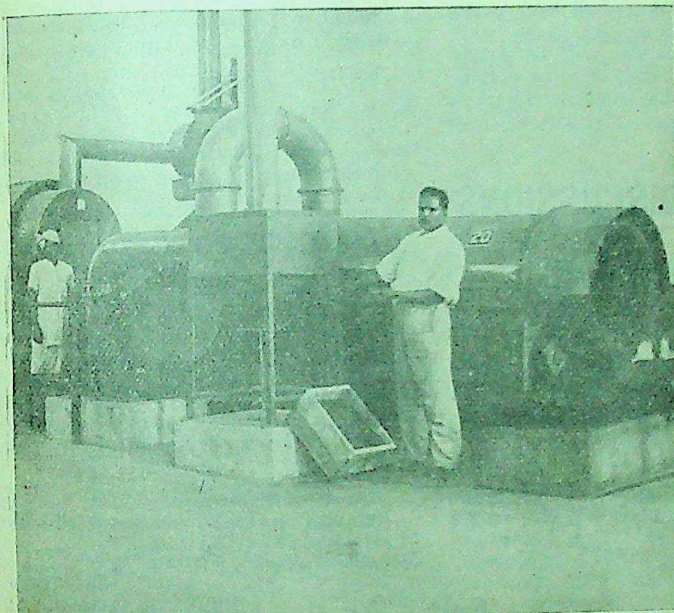
# INDIA'S CIGARETTE MANUFACTURE

## RESTRICTION ON U. S. TOBACCO CONTENT

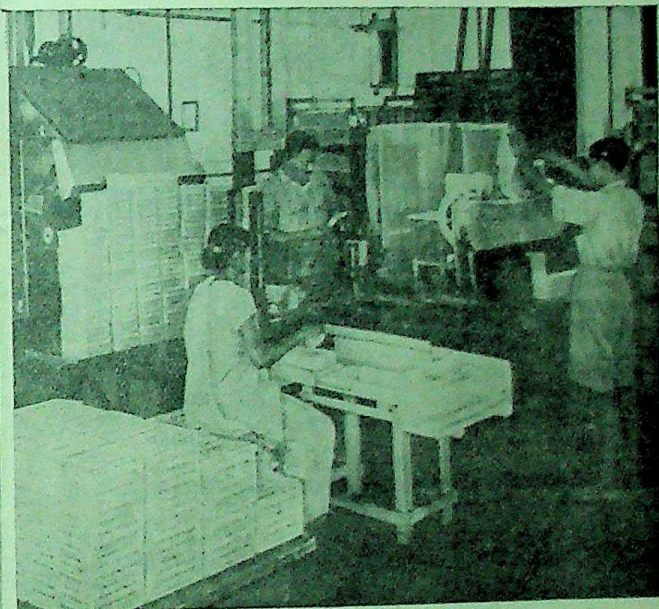
Owing to large military demands for cigarettes and to the difficulty in obtaining tobacco from America on account of the shipping situation the position in regard to stocks of American tobacco in India has of late considerably deteriorated. It has, therefore, become necessary to conserve stocks of American tobacco in India. The Government of India have accordingly issued a notification prohibiting the manufacture of cigarettes each of which contains American tobacco exceeding 30 per cent by weight of the total weight of the tobacco in the cigarette.



THIS LARGE BUILDING HOUSES A MODERN CIGARETTE FACTORY IN HYDERABAD STATE



Modern Machinery in the Hyderabad cigarette factory extracts impurities from tobacco before it goes into cigarettes



In this part of the Hyderabad State factory cigarettes are not touched by hand but packed by machinery

## 'DUTY ON WATTLE BARKS REIMPOSED

Early in 1940 the Government of India decided to purchase a reserve of 7,500 tons of wattle bark at an estimated cost of Rs. 10 lakhs with a view to ensuring supplies to the Indian Tanning Industry in the event of interruption to, or delays in, communication by sea and, in order to safeguard Government against possible losses on the liquidation of this reserve, an import duty of 3 per cent *ad valorem* was imposed at the time on barks for tanning as a temporary measure. The duty was to be removed when Government were satisfied that the proceeds had amounted to a sum considered adequate to cover the possible loss. In the following year the reserve was reduced to 5,000 tons, and by April 1942 the proceeds of the duty had amounted to a sum deemed sufficient. The duty was accordingly removed with effect from April 4, 1942.

Shortly afterwards in view of a heavy increase in the demand for wattle barks it

was found necessary to increase the reserve to 10,000 tons. The sum already collected as duty is insufficient to provide against possible loss in respect of this increased reserve, and it has, therefore, been found necessary to reimpose the duty of 3 per cent *ad valorem* on barks for tanning with effect from July 4, 1942. This also is intended to be a temporary measure and the duty will once again be removed when circumstances permit.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS TO DEFENCE LOANS

Subscriptions to the Third Defence Loan for the week ending August 1, 1942, amounted to Rs. 44,14,700.

The total amount subscribed to the Interest-free Defence Bonds up to August 1, 1942, was Rs. 2,97,99,000; to the 3 per cent Defence Loans (including previous issues) Rs. 1,06,23,69,000; and to the Post Office Ten-Year Defence Savings Certificates Rs. 5,72,00,000.

The grand total of subscriptions to all Indian Defence Loans since they were

first issued in June 1940 up to August 1, 1942 is Rs. 1,14,93,68,000.

## REGULATION OF TEA EXPORTS FROM INDIA

In order to conserve the available supply of tea for the purpose of equitable distribution to consumers relying on Indian tea, a proposal for the purchase of the entire exportable surplus is under active consideration.

The arrangements contemplated for the purpose may necessitate that, on and from a certain date (that is, from the date of the introduction of the arrangement which will be announced in due course), no teas can be exported from India by any person other than the Tea Controller for India or his nominees.

The Government of India desire to bring it to the notice of all exporters and purchasers of tea in the auctions that all private exports of tea may be prohibited if and when the proposed arrangements are brought into force.



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

## PARACHUTE MANUFACTURE IN INDIA

The biggest order yet for silk yarn for parachute cloth has recently been successfully negotiated, as also orders for other components, such as tape and light and heavy threads.

Several thousands of parachutes are involved and the recent orders for components placed with the trade in India will meet requirements for the full 1942-43 programme.

Besides the cloth, supply of tape, cord and thread was a bottleneck. Sources of production for such large quantities had first of all to be located before orders could be placed or the scheme regarded as feasible.

A special factory for the fabrication of parachutes is already in production and India's filature silk reeling capacity in two Provinces is to be multiplied by a Rs. 18,50,000-scheme at the cost of His

Majesty's Government, effecting a change-over from hand-reeling to machine-reeling methods.

### Impetus To Silk Industry

Filature-reeling, as opposed to the prevalent hand-reeling of silk, ensures uniformity of texture which is indispensable in parachute-making.

An available source of filature silk was Japan which supplied considerable quantities and Japan's loss is India's gain.

Madras including Mysore and Bengal are two provinces which will benefit by this impetus to filature silk. In Madras the scheme will be primarily Government-worked and controlled. In Mysore, where it is in large part a village industry, the scheme will be partly State-controlled and partly in the hands of private enterprise, while in Bengal private parties will be helped by loans. The installation of a Test House and a silk conditioning house are part of the scheme for increased production in future years.

## MILITARY ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS

The first meeting of the Military Accounts Committee was held on the morning of Monday, August 3, with Mr. C. E. Jones, Finance Secretary to the Government of India, in the chair in the absence of the Hon'ble the Finance Member who was then in England on official business. This Committee conducts a preliminary examination of the appropriation accounts of the Defence Services on behalf of the Public Accounts Committee of the Central Legislature and submits a report to the main committee.

An examination of the accounts disclosed that the total expenditure on the Defence Services during 1940-41 was Rs. 127 crores of which India's share was Rs. 73½ crores, the rest being borne by His Majesty's Government.

An interesting fact that emerged from the discussions of the Committee was that during the year under report, the value of the purchases made by Medical Stores Depots had increased more than fourfold. As a consequence of this increase in demand, indigenous sources of supply of medical stores and drugs underwent rapid development both by trade production having been stimulated and by increased manufacture in the factories attached to the depots. A large number of items which had formerly to be imported are now manufactured in India.

### SUPPLY DEPARTMENT'S WORK

The Military Accounts Committee, at its meeting on August 4, concluded its examination of the Appropriation Accounts of the Defence Services and also examined the representatives of the Supply Department.

Among the matters dealt with were the steps taken by the Supply Department to increase the productive capacity of India both by the grant of assistance to privately owned industry and by the setting up of factories by Government itself.

## DONATIONS FOR INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

In response to an appeal made by Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, the then Commerce Member, in the Central Legislative Assembly last year that Indian industrialists should come forward with donations to promote the work of the Scientific and Industrial Research Council, handsome donations have been received from the Tatas and Messrs. Indian Wire and Steel Products Ltd. These donations have been gratefully accepted by the Council.

Messrs. Tata Sons have donated Rs. 8,30,000 for the construction and equipment of a national chemical laboratory which is one of the most urgent needs of the Council. This laboratory will be located at Poona, and the Governing Body of the Council have decided that in recognition of Tatas' notable contribution the name of Tatas should be associated with the laboratory and buildings.

Rs. 1,00,000 has been donated by Messrs. Indian Wire and Steel Products Ltd., through the good offices of Sardar Baldev Singh for such purposes relating to the work of the Council as may be agreed upon between the donor and the Council.

### INDIAN SCIENTIST'S DONATION

The first Indian scientist to make a donation to the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research is Dr. Sir Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar, who has offered his own share of royalties to the Council to be used as gifts to such Indian scientists whose researches, though successfully completed, are not capable of immediate industrial exploitation in the country.

Sir Shanti Swarup has also presented a full-size portrait of Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar to the Council in recognition of his valuable services to Indian industrial research.





# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

## INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES

Since the beginning of war, the Office of the Economic Adviser to the Government of India has been issuing for official use only a weekly statement showing the wholesale prices of certain articles in India with their index numbers. In view of the widespread interest now being shown on the subject of price movements it has been thought desirable that this price index series should be made available to the public generally.

Accordingly a publication entitled "Index Numbers of Weekly Wholesale Prices of Certain Articles in India from week ending August 19, 1939, to week ending December 31, 1941," was issued on August 2, 1942.

### Six Groups Of Commodities

The index is sensitive; and is based on the wholesale prices of 23 selected commodities comprising 45 descriptions quoted in the appropriate markets in India. The commodities are classed in six principal groups as follows:—

**Group I (Food and Tobacco):**—Rice,\* Wheat,\* Tea,\* Groundnuts,\*

Coffee,\* Sugar, Tobacco,\* and Copra;

**Group II (Other Agricultural Commodities):**—Raw Cotton,\* Raw Jute,\* and Linseed\*;

**Group III (Raw Materials):**—Pig Iron,\* Coal, Lac,\* Wool Raw,\* Hides and Skins Raw,\* Kerosene and Petrol;

**Group IV (Manufactured Articles):**—Cotton Manufactures, Jute Manufactures,\* Cement, Galvanised Corrugated Sheets and Leather\*;

**Group V (Primary Commodities):**—All commodities included in Groups I to III above;

**Group VI (Chief Articles of Export):**—Fifteen commodities marked with an asterisk in Groups I to IV above.

The base period for the index numbers is the week ending August 19, 1939, as this was the last week before the war during which it could be said that prices were not too greatly affected by the signs of the coming war.

The price quotations relate to one particular day of the week—on or about Friday, except in the case of one variety of indigenous cotton manufactures. Quotations for the remaining three varieties of indigenous cotton manufactures are fortnightly and are repeated in alternate weeks.

### Group Averages

In addition to the general index number, group averages for all the six groups mentioned above are also computed.

The statements included in the publication show weekly index numbers of wholesale prices of every description of a commodity as also the average index for the commodity where more than one description has been taken, from week ending August 19, 1939, to the week ending December 31, 1941. Monthly averages based on weekly figures are also shown and similar figures for all the groups are included. For purposes of comparison, index numbers of prices prevailing on the dates nearest to August 19 of the years 1931 to 1938 are also given. The publication includes 12 charts illustrating the course of monthly prices of important commodities, and groups, from August 1939 to December 1941.

It is proposed to publish current figures from time to time in the Monthly Survey of Business Conditions in India.

## PRICES IN GREECE

For twelve months Greece has been an unwilling unit of Hitler's "New Order in Europe". Price-increases since the German invasion last Spring are an eloquent commentary on "Co-Prosperity"—Berlin or Tokyo brand.

### BEFORE NAZI INVASION

### TODAY

2 ANNAS



EGG

4 RUPEES

14 ANNAS



RESTAURANT MEAL

13 RUPEES

14 ANNAS



SEER OF BEANS

72 RUPEES

21 RUPEES



PAIR OF SHOES

290 RUPEES

105 RUPEES



SUIT

900 RUPEES

## COTTON TEXTILES SIZING AND FILLING CONTROL ORDER

In view of the imperative necessity for conserving shipping space for essential imports, it has become necessary drastically to restrict the imports of starch and other sizing materials and their use for sizing in the textile industry.

After consultation with the Priority Assistance Advisory Panel of the Supply Department, on which the Cotton Textile Industry is represented, the Government of India have issued a Cotton Textiles Sizing and Filling Control Order which prohibits with effect from September 1, 1942, the use in the manufacture of cotton piece-goods of sizing, filling or finishing materials in excess of 20 per cent by weight of the weight of the cotton in the cloth.

Manufacture, etc., of cloth containing size or filling material in excess of the limits imposed by the Order is permissible only if so manufactured in order to fulfil firm contracts entered into before August 8, 1942; but even then particulars of such contracts were required to be submitted to the Government of India, Commerce Department, before August 28, 1942.

## INDIAN TEXTILE INDUSTRY'S DECISION

Following a conference of the Cotton Textiles Advisory Panel held in Bombay recently, the Textile Industry have agreed to place 35 per cent of their capacity at the disposal of the Government of India as against 20 per cent hitherto. An increase in prices was conceded owing to the increased cost of cotton and mill stores and to the decision to accept war risk insurance charges as part of the cost of production.



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

## Precious Metals In India

the year 1941.

The monetary stocks of gold in that country increased during 1941 by 20 million ounces valued at \$741.8 million, as compared with an increase of 124 million ounces valued at \$4,351.2 million in the previous year. The estimated holdings of gold at the end of 1941 totalled 650 million ounces valued at \$22.7 billion as against 629 million ounces valued at \$22 billion at the end of 1940.

The total holdings of silver by the United States Treasury at the end of 1941 were estimated at 3,280 million ounces. Of this 139.9 millions were acquired during the year, being the smallest acquisition during any year since the inauguration of the Silver Purchase Programme by the Treasury in 1934.

The estimated production of gold in India in 1941 amounted to 285,162 fine ounces valued at Rs. 3,27,15,301 as compared with 289,324 fine ounces valued at Rs. 3,24,61,066 in 1940. The total production during the decade ended 1941 was 3,185,000 ounces or 1.1 per cent of the total world (excluding U.S.S.R.) production of 293,995,000 ounces during the same period. The production of silver for the nine months ended September 1941 amounted to 18,477 ounces valued at Rs. 28,065.

The estimated world production of gold in 1941 was 41,000,000 ounces. The estimated production of silver amounted to 268,000,000 ounces as compared with the record output of 278 million ounces in 1940.



## Silver Position

The Public Accounts Committee, on August 7, 1942, examined the grants and appropriations for which the Finance Department is responsible.

They learnt with interest that the output at the Currency Note Press of the Reserve Bank and Government currency notes during the year 1940-41 had been about 595 million pieces as against 291 million pieces in the preceding year and that the Press was at present engaged on the production of one-rupee notes at the rate of 2½ millions per day.

The silver debt which, at the beginning of 1940-41, had stood at Rs. 43 crores had been reduced by the end of the period to Rs. 30 crores. The net sales of silver had amounted to 5½ crores of tolas and 10½ crores of tolas had been issued for the new quaternary coinage. The amount of silver in stock with Government at the end of 1940-41 was about 28 crores of tolas in the form of bullion apart from about 19 crores of tolas in the form of rupee coin.



## Government Of India's Accounts

The latest statement of the Central Government's monthly accounts shows that excluding periodical adjustments and the transactions of Railways and the Posts and Telegraphs Department, expenditure in the first two months of the current financial year exceeded revenue by Rs. 16½ crores as against Rs. 10½ crores in the corresponding period of the previous year.

Revenue this year is better by Rs. ½ crore but Defence expenditure has increased by Rs. 6 crores.

Net receipts from Railways are Rs. 1½ crores better but, although available to the Central Government for ways and means purposes, these do not affect the revenue position to their full extent, since a portion will be utilised at the end of the year for the repayment of loans taken from the Railway Depreciation Reserve Fund.

Permanent Debt shows a net reduction of a little more than Rs. ½ crore during this period.



## Income-Tax Assessment

Under rule 3 of the Indian Finance (Income-tax) Rules, 1942, persons desirous of discharging their liability to tax by making the deposit are required to submit a simple form of return to the Income-Tax Officer together with the certificate of deposit made in the Indian Post Office Defence Savings Bank within 60 days of the publication of the general notice.

It has been represented by certain commercial bodies and Chambers of Commerce that the 60 days time allowed is too short a period for persons with incomes below Rs. 2,000 and that unless the time-limit is extended they would be deprived of exercising the option of discharging their liability by making a deposit.

Since the scheme is a new one and has been introduced for the first time this year, the Government of India have decided that for the purpose of any assessment for 1942-43 the time-limit for making the return and the requisite deposit should be extended up to August 31, 1942.

## Industrial Disputes

The number of industrial disputes that occurred in British India during the quarter ending December 31, 1941, was 106 resulting in the loss of 734,838 working days. The number of workers involved was 102,825, which is about 3.7 per cent of the total number of workers employed in industries in India.

In the preceding quarter, the number of disputes was 78, involving 108,820 workers and resulting in the loss of 1,184,919 working days.

Out of the 106 disputes during the quarter under review, 33 related to cotton, woollen and silk mills, 10 to jute mills and 9 to Engineering workshops. In 69 of the disputes, or nearly in 65 per cent, the demand related to wages.

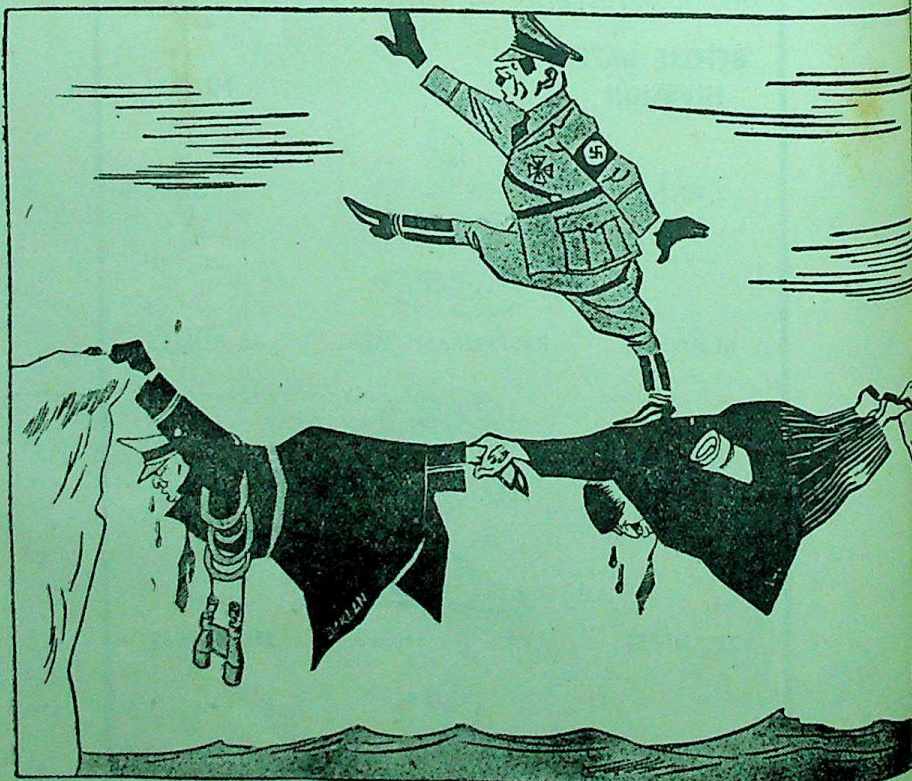
Of the disputes, 18 were successful, 29 partially successful, 54 unsuccessful and 5 were still in progress at the end of the quarter.



## Lead Deposits In Udaipur

It is understood that the first task undertaken by the newly created Utilisation Branch of the Geological Survey of India is a project which has the active backing of the American Technical mission—the study of the possibilities of the Zawar lead-zinc deposits in Udaipur. These have not been worked for over a century but may now help to build up India's stocks of lead and zinc which have been steadily diminishing since the occupation of Burma by the Japanese.

To help the Branch in its work and to maintain contact with non-official opinion—and particularly with industrialists—an Advisory Committee, composed largely of non-officials, has been set up under a resolution published in the *Gazette of India*, dated August 8, 1942.



THE BRIDGE TO THE FRENCH COLONIES



# EDUCATION—HEALTH—LANDS

## MR. N. R. SARKER ON QUININE POSITION IN INDIA

The Hon'ble Mr. N. R. Sarker, the then Member for Education, Health and Lands, received on July 25, 1942, a deputation from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry headed by Mr. G. L. Mehta, President of the Federation.

The deputation represented the views of Indian chemical manufacturers on the quinine policy of the Government of India, the representation of manufacturers on the Drugs Technical Advisory Board and the manufacturing activities of the Medical Stores Depots, the Central Research Institute and other Government laboratories. The deputation urged the adoption of a long-term policy to give further impetus to the development of the chemical and pharmaceutical industry in India. The Hon'ble Member explained that the chief concern of Government today was to augment the production of drugs and chemicals to the fullest extent possible to meet war requirements. This by itself has given a great stimulus to the expansion of the drugs and chemicals industry. He assured the deputation that the question of long-term policy will be separately considered. As regards quinine supplies, the deputation emphasised the need of a long-term plan to encourage cinchona cultivation in order to make India self-sufficient in respect of her quinine requirements.

### Cinchona Cultivation

The Hon'ble Member pointed out that the Provincial Governments concerned have agreed to encourage cinchona cultivation. At the same time, a scheme was prepared in consultation with Provincial Governments to make economic use of available quinine stocks. With larger Bengal production, small imports, economical use of available stocks and co-operation of the middlemen, he felt that it would be possible to meet the situation over the next five years. The deputation brought to notice that the activities of the Medical Store Depots compete with private manufacturers. The Hon'ble Member stated that their general policy was to avoid competition and produce only such things as are not available from private sources at competitive rates and in adequate quantity. The deputation mentioned that the costing system of the depots was not on a commercial basis and requested that the list of articles manufactured at the depots and the prices at which they were sold should be made available to the industry. The Hon'ble Member promised to look into this matter and agreed to get examined any specific grievances brought to his notice. The Hon'ble Member stated that the President of the Chemical Manufacturers Association was nominated as a member of Drugs Advisory Board as a representative of the Indian Medical Association, but during the war, it would not be possible to undertake legislation to give special representation to the Indian Chemical Manufacturers Association. He added that the question might be re-examined after the war.

### NEW POSTAL ENVELOPES

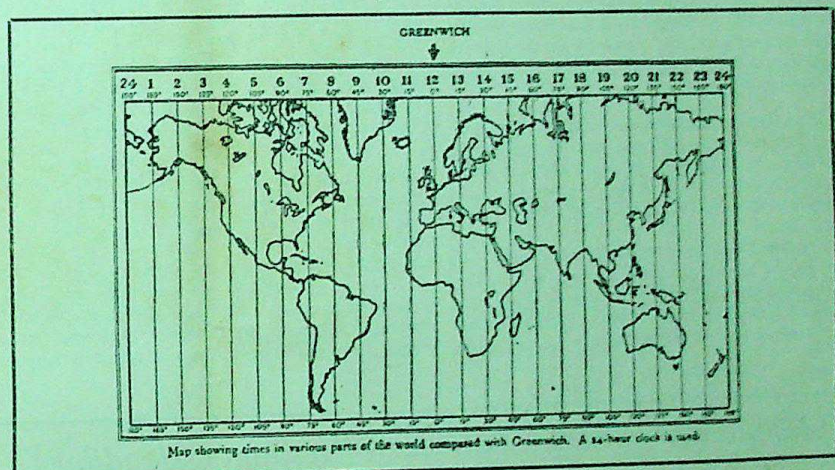
A new issue of King George VI 1½-annas embossed square envelopes, printed on badami paper, will be available for sale to the public at certain important post offices on and from August 15, 1942, and at other offices from a later date.

## INDIAN STANDARD TIME

The existence of two different standards of time in India is for purposes of defence undesirable and since May 15 this year a uniform standard time has been observed throughout the country. In deciding what that standard should be the Government have had to consider on the one hand the convenience of that portion of India which lies to the west of meridian 82½ and already enjoys sufficient daylight saving and on the other the requirements of the eastern provinces where it is essential to avoid any electricity overload due to overlap of factory demands with those of domestic, office and street lighting and where extra daylight may be needed to mitigate the effect of obscuration.

Since, in the summer months, there is an adequate margin of daylight in the eastern areas, it was considered that by an adjustment of office and factory hours the requirements of those areas during the summer could be adequately met if Standard Time were fixed at 5½ hours

ahead of Greenwich Mean Time throughout India and a uniform time was introduced accordingly as from May 15. The Government of India undertook, however, to consider the question of a further change before the winter season commenced. It has now been decided that to ensure the continuance of sufficient daylight in the eastern provinces it is necessary to make such a change in the near future, and that Indian Standard Time throughout the country should be 6½ hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time. The change will take effect from midnight of August 31/September 1 from which date clocks will be advanced by one hour. It is fully realised that the advance of clocks by one hour must inevitably cause some inconvenience to areas lying west of meridian 82½, but it is believed that by an adjustment of hours of work, this inconvenience can be overcome and that when the public becomes accustomed to the new time no great difficulty will be experienced.



## FOOD PRODUCTION AND CONTROL

“This is not the time for long speeches. It is the time for action,” said the Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh, Member for Education, Health and Lands, Government of India, addressing the Governing Body of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, which met in New Delhi on July 31.

Sir Jogendra Singh, recalling his association with the Imperial Council, said, “I have been out of touch for the last five years, but I have spent these years again at my farm and now I will acquaint myself with the programme which the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research has already undertaken and do my best to accelerate the pace of progress.”

The Hon'ble Member asked for the views of the Governing Body on the present food position in provinces, prospects of increased production, how the food controls work, and what steps should be taken to restore normal trade conditions, to ensure even flow of commodities from one province to another.

He added: “Please do not hesitate to mention anything which in your view is likely to ease the food situation. I shall value your suggestions greatly. I am anxious, as you must be, I am sure, to assure contentment of the towns and the villages which depends on adequate supply of food grains and other commodities.”

### The Agenda

The Governing Body examined the financial position of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research together with the recommendations of the Standing Finance Committee. It considered the budget estimates for 1942-43 and the allocation of funds for 1943-44. The annual report for 1941-42 was also considered and new and extension schemes were reviewed.

Among other items on the agenda were co-ordination of research, increased production of foodstuffs, prevention of adulteration of ghee, proposal for the review of sugarcane research and extension of the term of the Sugar Committee.



# EDUCATION—HEALTH—LANDS

## PURE TEAK PLANTATIONS IN INDIA

The problems presented by pure teak plantations have been analysed and investigations published in the Indian Forest Records by the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun.

In most natural forests teak does not occur as a dense pure crop, but as a small ingredient of a mixture. The remainder of the forest consists of many species, most of them of little or no value.

In consequence much concern has been expressed on the experiments of growing teak in "artificial" pure plantations as it seemed to be "going against nature." Opinions have been expressed that teak produced in pure plantations so impoverish the soil that even if one crop could be successfully grown it could not be followed by a second crop of teak.

The record just published shows that the misgivings regarding pure teak plantations have so far largely been a false alarm as the objections put forward against pure plantations as a general proposition have not been established.

It is, however, essential to select suitable sites for the plantations and to use only carefully selected seed of good strains from suitable localities. A good undergrowth is generally desirable in practically all localities.

Underplanting or sowing with bamboos has given most promising results so far, but underplanting with tree species has not achieved the desired results. Correct thinning technique is important and promises

to be one of the chief factors in keeping the crops healthy and the soil in productive state.

Teak planting has been going on in India for nearly a century. At present 6,000 acres are planted with teak every year and the total area of teak plantations in India and Burma is over 200,000 acres.

## LOCUST MENACE IN NORTHERN INDIA

The locust swarms which were noticed in certain parts of Baluchistan, Sind, Rajputana, Khairpur, Bahawalpur and Western India States, invaded other parts of these areas, as well as the whole of central India, reaching Orissa State in the east, Aligarh and Agra districts of the United Provinces and Rewari (Gurgaon district) in the Punjab, during the second fortnight of June. In the south, they reached as far east as Indore. The swarms were mostly of pink colour, but the number of yellow forms (sexually mature) was on the increase.

Almost all parts of desert outbreak centres in North-West India have received heavy rainfall during the last 10 days of June, which has made soil conditions suitable for egg-laying. The oviposition by the swarms is imminent; in fact, it has already taken place at Gadra (Jodhpur-Sind border).

The anti-locust organisations of the affected areas are advised to watch closely the tracts which have received rainfall in the previous fortnight, as it is in such tracts that oviposition is expected. It is much cheaper and easier to destroy the resting and ovipositing locusts and the eggs which they might lay, than kill the hoppers which would emerge in large numbers, unless adequate measures are undertaken now.

## SUGAR STOCKS ALLOCATION

Economy of transport has become an objective of paramount importance and in order to effect this and at the same time to ensure that consuming areas receive their fair share of the sugar stocks available with factories in the United Provinces and Bihar, the Sugar Controller for India has allocated the stocks with these factories among the various consuming areas on a quota basis.

He has informed factories that he will consider any representation against this division of their stocks, and in the meantime has permitted them to make despatches up to August 1, 1942, in accordance with the despatching instructions now in their hands, irrespective of the areas to which their stocks have been allocated. They have also been asked to report instances in which despatching instructions have been received for dates after August 1, 1942, together with earnest money or full value of the goods, in order to enable him to consider whether special permits should be issued after that date for areas other than those given in the allocation order.

## BALTA JHEEL PROJECT

A project is under preparation for the construction of a storage reservoir in Muzaffarnagar (United Provinces) by building an earthen bund round an area which is for the most part a 'jheel,' known as Balta Jheel.

The reservoir will be filled by means of a feeder from the Anupshahar branch of the Ganges Canal during the monsoon when surplus is available. The water thus collected will be released through an escape to the Ganges river during the period of *Kor* irrigation in *rabi*, and will pass into the Lower Ganges Canal, the headworks of which are lower down the river. The extra supply will increase the irrigated area on that system.

## THE CENTRAL LEGISLATURE

His Excellency the Governor-General has decided to extend the life of the existing Council of State and Legislative Assembly for a further period of one year from October 1, 1942, when the extensions effected in his orders, dated July 10, 1941, will expire.

His Excellency has also had under consideration the date on which the Autumn Session of the Central Legislature should be held. He has taken careful note of the grounds in favour of holding the Session in August or September, but he has reached the conclusion, in consultation with his colleagues, that the balance of advantage lies in deferring the commencement of the Session until after the termination of the Puja holidays towards the end of October.

## SALT SCARCITY IN KABUL

Scarcity of salt is reported from Kabul, and the Afghan Government are understood to be considering the possibility of placing the sale of salt under the control of Government organisation. Adequate supplies of good quality salt are obtainable from the Namaksar lake, some 80 miles west of Herat on the Afghan-Persian border, and it is possible that the Afghan Government may exploit this source of supply.

## CAPTURE OF HITLER'S DOUBLE (Newspaper Headline)



"What special qualifications for these duties did you have?"  
 "Well, I've always suffered from an inferiority complex!"



# DR. B. R. AMBEDKAR ON THE NEED FOR UNIFORMITY IN LABOUR LEGISLATION

Here is the full text of the speech delivered by the Hon'ble Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, Member for Labour, Government of India, at the Joint Labour Conference in New Delhi on Friday, August 7, 1942:

I have great pleasure in welcoming you to this tripartite Labour Conference. I can hardly convey to you adequately the sense of gratitude which I and the Government of India feel for the ready response which you have given to our invitation and the trouble that you have taken to be present here this morning. I hope and trust that this ready response on your part will be followed by an equally willing co-operation in making this Conference a success and in carrying through its purposes to fruition.

I do not wish to detain you long; these are days of grave emergency and I realise that everyone must return to his post as soon as he can. I will not, therefore, make any lengthy speech on this occasion but will content myself with touching upon a few points with a view to bringing home to you the significance of this Conference and to state its aims and objects.

## Two Special Features

As you know, there have been so far three Labour Conferences held in New Delhi under the auspices of the Labour Department of the Government of India. The first one was held on January 22 and 23, 1940, the second on January 27 and 28, 1941, and the third on January 30 and 31, 1942. The present Conference is thus the fourth of this series. You will realise the significance of this Conference better if I tell you in as few words as I can the special features which distinguish the present Conference from its predecessors. There are two special features which mark off this Conference from the previous ones. In the first place, although the previous Conferences met regularly at certain fixed periods, permanency was not a part of the plan of those Conferences. There could have been a break in their regularity and the idea could have even been abandoned without doing violence to any rule or convention or understanding. The present Conference has permanency as a part of its plan. The organisation that we want to set up will have the permanency and regularity of a Standing Committee, ready to function when called upon to do so.

More important than this feature of the Conference is the second feature to which I want to draw your particular attention. It relates to the composition of the Conference. The previous Conferences were representative of Governments only—the representatives of the Central Government, Provincial Governments and some of the Indian States' Governments formed the only constituents of the Conference. The most necessary and the most important elements, namely, the Employers and the Employees, were not represented at these Conferences. Care was no doubt taken to establish contact and even to consult the organisations representing the Employers and the Employees. For instance, my distinguished colleague the Hon'ble Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, when he was Member in charge of Labour, did take occasion when he visited Calcutta to meet the representatives of labour and of employers.



THE HON'BLE DR. B. R. AMBEDKAR

Similarly, my distinguished colleague, the Hon'ble Sir Firoz Khan Noon, to whom we owe the project of the present conference, did in his tenure of office as Labour Member seek occasion to take counsel with the organisations of Employers and Employees. It is for the first time, however, in the history of these Labour Conferences that the representatives of the Employers and the Employees have been brought face to face within the ambit of a joint conference. To my mind this is a feature of the Conference which should find a very ready welcome from all concerned, and particularly from the representatives of the Employees. Ever since the Whitley Commission, in its Report on Labour in India, put forth the proposal that there should be established in India as a permanent body an Industrial Council, the representatives of labour have agitated for effect being given to that recommendation. For various reasons it did not until now become possible to realise the ideal of an Industrial Council. I do not claim that the proposal which this Conference is called upon to give effect to amounts to a complete realisation of that cherished ideal. But there can be no doubt that this Conference seeks to pave the way towards the realisation of that ideal, and I am sure you will not deem it an exaggeration if I say that it marks a long stride on the road which leads to that goal.

## Labour Legislation

I will now say a word or two with regard to the aims and objects of this Conference. Some of you who are familiar with the proceedings of the previous Conferences will know that one of the primary objects which brought those Conferences into being was the great desire to avoid the danger arising out of the diversity in Labour legislation with which this country was threatened as a consequence of Provincial independence in Labour legislation.

So long as the Government of India was a unitary Government, uniformity in labour legislation was not difficult to obtain. But the federal constitution created by the

Government of India Act of 1935 by including Labour legislation in the Concurrent Legislative List had created a very serious situation. It was feared that if there was no Central legislation each Province might make a particular law specially suited to itself, but different from that of its neighbour by allowing Provincial considerations to dominate over considerations of general and national importance.

## Three Main Objects

The Conferences were called to supply a most necessary corrective to this tendency and to foster among Provincial Governments a regard for the wholesome principle of uniformity in Labour legislation. In constituting this Conference I do not propose to abandon this object of uniformity in Labour legislation with which the three previous Conferences were mainly concerned. It will remain one of the objects which this Conference will pursue. But to this I would like to add two other objects, namely, the laying down of a procedure for the settlement of industrial disputes and the discussion of all matters of all-India importance as between labour and capital. Our Conference will have, therefore, three main aims and objects—

- (i) the promotion of uniformity in Labour legislation;
- (ii) the laying down of a procedure for the settlement of industrial disputes; and
- (iii) the discussion of all matters of all-India importance as between employers and employees.

In regard to the first it is unnecessary to say why we have included it in our aims and objects. Uniformity in Labour legislation can never cease to be a matter of importance to so large a country like India with its many administrative and provincial jurisdictions. It must, therefore, continue to occupy our attention in the future as it has done in the past.

## Industrial Disputes

As to industrial disputes both Labour and Capital have, since the war, behaved with a sense of responsibility and the number of strikes that have taken place has not been on a very extensive or disturbing scale. There was some tendency at the beginning of this year for an increase in industrial unrest, but the laying down of a procedure for adjudication of disputes under the Defence of India Rule 81-A has resulted in some reduction in recent months. That procedure will, we hope, prove an efficient and a reliable machinery, but it is a procedure which can only remain in force for the duration of the war and it is, therefore, necessary to include the laying down of a procedure for the settlement of industrial disputes as one of the aims and objects of the Conference which we propose to set up.

In defining the last item included in our aims and objects we have deliberately used wide language so as not to exclude from the deliberations of the Conference anything that is of importance to labour and capital. But I like to tell you what we have in mind in employing this broad expression "matters of all-India importance." We want to include in it all matters relating to Labour welfare and the



# LABOUR

maintenance of Labour morale. So understood I need hardly say this object though placed last may be regarded as the highest in importance. We certainly regard it as most urgent. The urgency I need hardly say is due to the necessities of the war.

## A War Of Supplies

The present war is a war of supplies, and supplies depend upon peace in industry. How to secure peace in industry is a pressing problem for us today. I may not be wrong if I say that peace in industry depends upon two things. In the first place, it depends upon the existence of machinery ready at hand for the quick settlement of industrial disputes. Secondly, it depends upon the prompt removal of all such conditions in industry which may fray tempers and bring about a deterioration in the morale of people engaged in it. But there remain a large number of questions which are too small to lead to an industrial dispute, but which are big enough to raise temper. Most of these matters which are liable to raise tempers relate to what in ordinary parlance is designated as matters affecting social welfare. For dealing with such problems we have no machinery, and it is mainly the necessity to provide immediately a machinery for advising Government as to how such matters should be peacefully and satisfactorily dealt with that has led Government to institute this Conference forthwith.

## The Task Ahead

Such is the significance of this Conference and such are its aims and objects. Now as to the task before this Conference, you will perhaps find our agenda to be a very meagre fare. There is not much meat in it. But that is unavoidable. We cannot place before you any agenda other than the one we have placed until we have reached a decision on the preliminary question as to whether we agree upon the plan of having such a Conference and what its constitution should be. That being the position, all I can do today is to call upon you to decide upon the following matters:—

- (1) The desirability of establishing a Labour Conference as a permanent organisation to meet at least once a year.
- (2) The desirability of instituting a Standing Advisory Committee of this Conference which would meet whenever Government thought it necessary to invite them to meet and to advise Government on matters placed before it, and
- (3) Defining in general terms the procedure for the constitution of these bodies.

As regards the constitution of these bodies, it may be desirable for me to place before you the plan which, we think, is best suited for the purposes of a tripartite conference like this.

## Plenary Conference

We propose to constitute two bodies—(1) a Plenary Conference, and (2) a Standing Advisory Committee.

The Plenary Conference will be composed of representatives of the Central Government, of Provinces, of States, of employers and of employees. In general, each Province or large State will be entitled to be represented, and those States not individually represented would be represented by a nominee of the Chamber of Princes. Representation would also be given to the main associations of employers and

employees, and it would also be open to Government to nominate representatives of classes of employers or employees who in their opinion were not otherwise adequately represented. It would not in the case of the Plenary Conference be possible to ensure that the representation of employers and employees should be equal to that of Government representatives.

## Standing Advisory Committee

The constitution of the Standing Advisory Committee would be more rigid, and as you will see from the text of the resolution that will be placed before you that we propose to distribute the representation as follows:—1 representative of the Government of India, 6 representatives of Provinces, 3 representatives of States, 5 representatives of employers, and 5 representatives of employees, with the Labour Member of the Central Government as Chairman.

In suggesting this constitution for the Standing Advisory Committee we have followed as closely as we can the principles underlying the constitution of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office which was set up under the auspices of the League of Nations. There are three principles which to my mind underlie that constitution. First, equality of representation between Government and non-Government representatives. This is illustrated by the provision contained in Article 7, clause I, whereby out of 32 representatives 16 represent governments and 16 represent employers and workers. We have given effect to this principle by giving 10 seats to Government and 10 seats to Industry.

The second principle is equality of representation as between employers and

employees. This is provided by the same Article whereby the 16 non-government seats are divided equally between employers and employees. We recognise this by distributing the 10 seats allotted to Industry equally between employers and employees.

## The Third Principle

The third principle is an assurance of representation to certain interests by reservation. This will be found in Article 7 which by clause (2) reserves 6 out of 16 government seats to non-European States and by clause (4) reserves two seats from the quota of employers' seats and two seats from the quota of employees' seats to non-European States. We propose to adopt this principle by allowing one representative from the quota of each, employers and employees, to be nominated by the Labour Member of the Central Government. This will ensure some representation of interests other than those represented by the main employers, and employees, organisations. I hope the justice and fairness of these proposals will appeal to you and that you will not find any difficulty in giving them your approval.

We are setting up these bodies at the Centre, but as you know very well Labour is much more concerned with Provincial Governments than with the Central Government, and it seems to me that a body set up at the top will require to be supported from the bottom, and, therefore, if Provincial Governments would desire to set up similar bodies in their own provinces to deal with questions with which the Central organisation would deal, I give on behalf of the Central Government an assurance that we should undoubtedly encourage any suggestion on this general point.

# PLENARY LABOUR CONFERENCE AND STANDING COMMITTEE TO BE SET UP

**A** resolution setting up a Plenary Labour Conference and a Standing Committee was unanimously adopted at the Tripartite Labour Conference.

The Conference was attended by nearly 50 delegates, representative of the Central and Provincial Governments, of certain States and of all important organisations of workers and employers, and was opened by the Hon'ble Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.

Representatives of employers and workers were in full agreement with the objects of the Conference.

Mr. V. V. Giri, President of the All-India Trade Union Congress, welcomed the institution of the Conference and hoped that it would busy itself, not merely with discussions but with the question of the advancement of labour conditions and of peace in industry.

Mr. Jamnadas Mehta, President of the Indian Federation of Labour, remarked that the method of the Conference should ensure peace and contentment in industry, particularly at this critical period.

Sir A. R. Dalal and Sir Sri Ram, the Presidents of the two all-India associations of employers, led their respective delegations. Representatives of the Chamber of Princes, and of Hyderabad, Baroda and Gwalior also took part in the discussions. All the delegates welcomed whole-heartedly the participation of the Indian States.

The Plenary Conference will consist of 44 members with the Labour Member of the Government of India as Chairman. Twenty-two members will represent various governments, 11 workers and 11 employers.

Similarly the Standing Committee, consisting of 20 members with the Labour Member as its Chairman, will have equal numbers of representatives of Government on the one hand, and of employers and workers on the other.

The Hon'ble the Labour Member, who also presided at the Conference, accepted on behalf of the Government of India the principle that representatives of all organisations of employers and workers should be appointed in agreement with such organisations.

He also stressed the fact that the constitution of the Conference now adopted was in no sense intended to be rigid; the working of the Conference and of the committee under the present constitution would be watched and suggestions for amendments would be considered as they arose in the light of experience of the working of the bodies.

The Conference also discussed generally the subject of labour welfare and labour morale in wartime. Delegates both of workers and employers stressed the need for Government's ensuring adequate supplies of food grains to workers at reasonable prices.



# COMMUNICATIONS

## India-America Air Link

Air mails for the United States of America and Canada are at present sent by the air-cum-sea route via Durban and the United Kingdom. Arrangements have now been made, with effect from August 15, 1942, to send such mails throughout by air by utilising the Pan-American Airways' services operating between West Africa and the U.S.A. This all-air service will afford a considerable gain in the transit time.

A blue air mail label should be affixed on the top left-hand corner of all air mail correspondence sent to the U.S.A. and Canada. The air mail fee and superscription required are as follows :

### AIR MAIL FEE.

Name of country.	Super-scription.	Rate per ½ oz. on letters and packets, in addition to ordinary postage.	Rate per postcard, inclusive of ordinary postage.
		Rs. a.	Rs. a.
U.S.A.	India-Lagos-U.S.A.	2 8	1 0
Canada	India-Lagos-Canada.	2 0	0 11

The present air-cum-sea route via Durban will also be available for air mails to U.S.A. and Canada at the existing rates of postage.

All future correspondence should bear the following inscriptions on envelopes and postcards :—

"PRISONERS OF WAR POST."

"SERVICE De PRISONNIERS De GUERRE."

The location of the Internment Camp, if known, should be stated, otherwise the correspondence should be addressed C/o the Japanese Red Cross, Tokyo.

The instructions given in the previous communique should, with these modifications, be closely observed.

No parcels can be accepted at present.

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## Missing Military Personnel

In a Press Note issued on June 21, 1942, laying down the procedure for instituting inquiries in regard to personnel believed to be in enemy hands as a result of operations in the Far Eastern theatres of war, it was stated that "initial inquiries regarding all military regular personnel should be addressed to the Indian Red Cross, Simla." The Red Cross is not concerned with the welfare of military regular personnel, which is the sole concern of General Headquarters, India, who handle all information regarding such personnel. Such information, when received, is automatically communicated to the next-of-kin. There is therefore no advantage in making inquiries regarding such personnel either from General Headquarters or from any Government department or organisation.

## Dearness Allowance

The Central Government have had under review the dearness allowance at present given to railway servants in view of the recent substantial rise in the cost of living. Dearness allowance was originally given to railway employees with effect from September 1940 and this was increased in November 1941.

On both occasions the rates of the allowance were fixed after consultation with organised labour represented by the All-India Railwaymen's Federation of which Mr. Jamnadas Mehta is the President. On this occasion prolonged consultation has taken place; and while the Railway Board has been unable to accept in full the demands put forward by the Federation, yet agreement has been reached by both parties as to the extent of the modification which should be made in the present rules with effect from June 15, 1942. These modifications have since received the sanction of Government.

At present those working in Bombay and Calcutta receive Rs. 4-8 a month if their pay is Rs. 70 or below, those in towns of 100,000 inhabitants, together with certain selected areas Rs. 3-12 if their pay is Rs. 60 or below, and those in other areas Rs. 3 if their pay is Rs. 35 or below.

Under the modified scheme, those in towns of more than 250,000 inhabitants are to receive Rs. 10-8 if their pay is Rs. 120 or below. Those in other towns of 50,000 inhabitants and over, with the same selected areas as before are to receive Rs. 8-12 if their pay is Rs. 90 or under, while those in other areas will receive Rs. 7 if their pay is Rs. 60 or below.

## Airgraphs

In order to avoid complaints of the contents of airgraphs received in India being spoiled by the gum with which airgraph envelopes are pasted, it has provisionally been decided by the Post Office not to paste down these envelopes but to merely insert the flaps inside the covers as in the case of printed papers. In addition, as a measure of economy, it has been decided to ask the public to return the envelopes to the postmen or to the nearest post office so that they can be re-used by the Post Office.

The cordial co-operation of the public is requested in this matter.

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## Mails To And From Burma

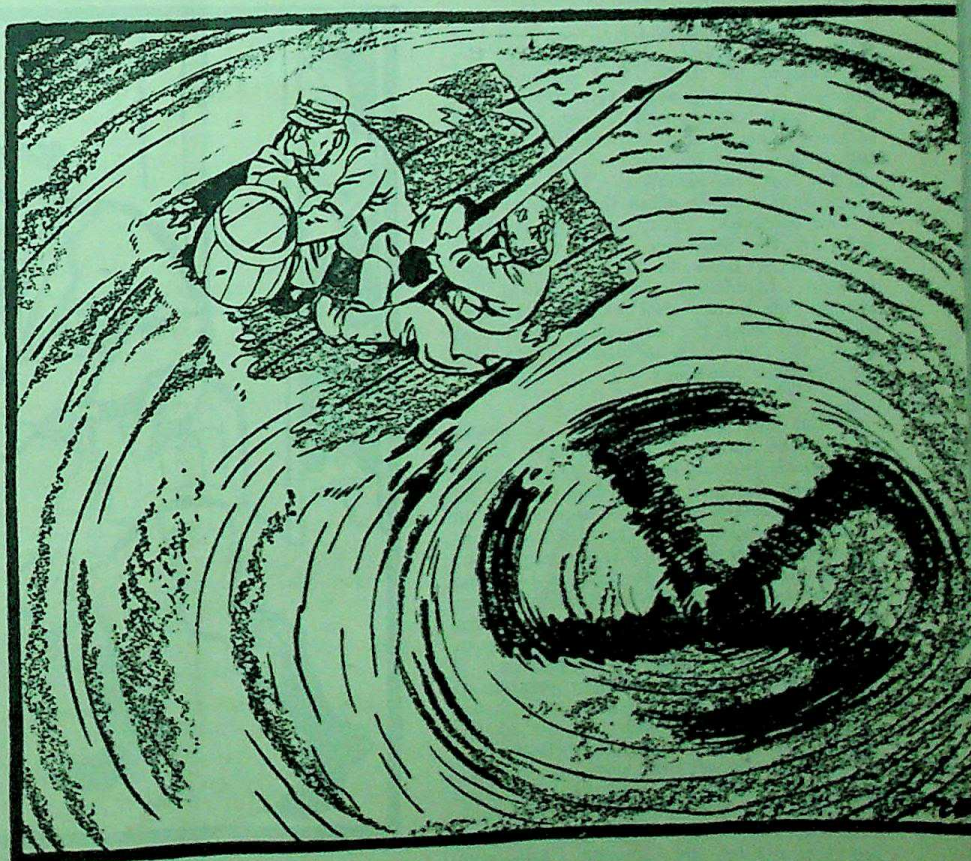
Any complaint or inquiry relating to any money order or postal article originating in Burma should henceforth be addressed to the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs, Burma, Telegraph Storeyard, Calcutta.

Complaints and inquiries relating to money orders and postal articles originating in India for delivery in Burma should, as usual, be addressed to the Indian Post Offices concerned.

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## Letters To War Prisoners

Correspondence with prisoners of war, and civilians interned by the Japanese in the Far East should not, in future, be addressed to "Prisoners of War Information Bureau, Tokyo," as was previously announced in a communique issued on June 23, 1942.



FLOTSAM AND JETSAM



# GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION ON CONGRESS DEMAND

**A** resolution of the Governor-General-in-Council, dated August 8, 1942, reads :

The A.I.C.C. have ratified the resolution passed by the Working Committee of the Indian National Congress on August 5. That resolution demands the immediate withdrawal of British power from India, and sanctions "the starting of a mass struggle on non-violent lines on the widest possible scale." The Governor-General-in-Council has been aware, too, for some days past of dangerous preparations by the Congress Party for unlawful, and, in some cases, violent activities, directed among other things to the interruption of communications and public utility services, the organisation of strikes, tampering with the loyalty of Government servants, and interference with defence measures, including recruitment.

The Government of India have waited patiently in the hope that wiser counsels might prevail. They have been disappointed in that hope. To a challenge such as the present there can only be one answer. The Government of India would regard it as wholly incompatible with their responsibilities to the people of India, and their obligations to the Allies, that a demand should be discussed the acceptance of which would plunge India into confusion and anarchy internally, and would paralyse her effort in the common cause of human freedom.

## Congress Demand

For the demand of the Congress leaders there is no warrant. In the view of the Government of India that demand is difficult, if not impossible, to reconcile with a full sense of responsibility on the part of the leaders of the Congress Party: or a full appreciation by them of the realities of the present situation. The Congress Working Committee admit that "there may be risks involved." They are right. Acceptance of the resolution must mean the exposure of India to Axis attack from without. Internally, the withdrawal of British rule invites civil war, the collapse of law and order, the outbreak of communal feud, the dislocation of economic life with its inevitable hardships.

Nor can the Government of India accept the claim of the Congress Party to speak for India as a whole. The Congress Party has for long occupied a position of great prominence and great importance in Indian political life. At this day its importance is substantial, but it is the duty of the Government of India to take a balanced view of the interests of all sections of Indian thought and Indian opinion. And looking as they must to the repeated protests even in these last few days by the leaders of great communities and solidly established interests, by so many leaders of liberal thought, by those great sections of the population which are giving unstinted and invaluable support to war against Axis aggression, they are confirmed in their view that that claim has no solid foundation, and that acceptance of the proposals now put forward by the Congress Party must mean the abandonment of all those large and powerful elements in the population

which have condemned the course of action proposed by the Congress Party; and which resent and resist the widespread dislocation which its acceptance would involve of India's war effort and of the general life of the community.

## British Policy

Nor can the Congress leaders claim that only thus can India's future be assured. The Congress Party is not India's mouth-piece, yet, in the interests of securing their own dominance and in pursuit of their totalitarian policy, its leaders have consistently impeded the efforts made to bring India to full nationhood. But for the resistance of the Congress Party to all constructive endeavours, India might even now be enjoying self-government. British policy for India's future stands clear. It is that once hostilities cease, India shall devise for herself with full freedom of decision, and on a basis embracing all and not only a single party, the form of government which she regards as most suited to her conditions; and that in the meantime Indian leaders shall fully participate in the government of their country, and in the counsels of the Commonwealth and of the United Nations.

The fullest opportunity for the attainment of self-government by the people of India has been guaranteed by His Majesty's Government. It is on the basis, fully accepted by His Majesty's Government and by the people of Great Britain, that the

fullest opportunity shall be given for the attainment of self-government by the Indian people, that when the day of victory comes the final structure of India's constitution will be erected by Indians themselves. That those guarantees given by the British Parliament and the British people are accepted by the people of India we firmly believe. The suggestion put forward by the Congress Party that the millions of India uncertain as to the future are ready, despite the sad lessons of so many martyr countries, to throw themselves into the arms of the invader is one that the Government of India cannot accept as a true representation of the feeling of the people of this great country.

The leaders of the Congress Party have claimed that the withdrawal of British rule "with goodwill" will "result in establishing a stable provisional government in India, and co-operation between this Government and the United Nations in resisting aggression and helping China." There is no justification for those claims. Nor can the Government of India accept the suggestion that a stable provisional government could be formed in a moment of time within a day or two of the withdrawal of British power.

## "Deep Differences"

Past experience has shown, to their profound regret, the existence of deep differences in this country, the harmonizing of which must be the object of all on whom



"COME ON JOE, THOSE TROUSERS WILL FIT ME FINE"

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1942



responsibility falls, the removal of which is the ambition and the hope of the present Government of India. But to deny that those problems confront India today would be to ignore the facts; and the Government of India are satisfied that the interval between the withdrawal of British rule and the establishment of a stable provisional government would provide an open opportunity for the enemies of order and for all dissident elements in the population.

In the view of the Government of India it is not too much to say that acceptance of the demand now put forward by the Congress Party must mean the betrayal of the Allies, whether in or outside India, the betrayal in particular of Russia and China, the betrayal of those ideals to which so much support has been given and is given today from the true heart and mind of India, the betrayal of India's fighting men whose glory is so great, and the betrayal of all those loyal and co-operating elements which do not support the Congress Party, but which have played so active and so valuable a part in British India and the Indian States in the prosecution of the war.

#### Government's Duty

India has today a government stronger and more representative than ever in the past, a government predominantly Indian and non-official, a government determined to prosecute the war and no less determined to lead India on to her political goal. There is nothing that the Government of India regret more than this challenge at so critical a juncture. But on them there lies the task of defending India, of maintaining India's capacity to wage war, of safeguarding India's

### SPECIAL POWERS FOR PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

By the addition of a rule to the Defence of India Act, the Government of India have empowered Provincial Governments to supersede a local authority, for such period as they may think necessary, if the local authority employs its funds, its officers, members or servants in activities prejudicial to the defence of British India, the public safety, the maintenance of public order, the efficient prosecution of war or the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the life of the community.

interests, of holding the balance between the different sections of her people without fear or favour. That task the Government of India will discharge in face of the challenge now thrown down by the Congress Party with clear determination, but with an anxiety that action shall be preventive of the interruption of war effort and the other dangers to which they have referred rather than punitive, and with a full consciousness of responsibility to India and to the cause of the Allies and of civilization.

Their duty is plain and they have to discharge it, profoundly as they must deplore the situation which they have been called upon to face. They urge the people of India to unite with them in resistance to the present challenge of a party. They appeal to them to lay aside all political differences, and for the period of the war place before all other considerations the defence of their country and the achievement of those common aims on which depends the future not only of India but of all the freedom-loving peoples of the world.

# THE CONGRESS DISCUSSIONS

## Text Of Seized Documents

Here are certain documents relating to the Congress Working Committee's discussions concerning the drafting of the All-India Congress Committee resolution of May 1, 1942:

A typed document, recovered from the office of the All-India Congress Committee, Allahabad, during the police search on May 26, 1942, reads:—

Gandhiji was not present at this meeting (at Allahabad from April 27, 1942, to May 1, 1942) of the Working Committee. But he sent from Wardha a draft resolution for the consideration of the Committee. Miraben who brought the draft explained how Gandhiji's mind was working along the lines sketched in it. The Committee gave earnest and careful consideration to the draft. (APPENDIX I.)

The draft contained the following points:—

(i) A demand to the British Government to clear out, (ii) India is a zone of war as a result of British Imperialism, (iii) no foreign assistance needed for the freedom of this country, (iv) India has no quarrel with any country, (v) if Japan invaded India it shall meet with non-violent resistance, (vi) form of non-cooperation laid down, (vii) foreign soldiers a grave menace to Indian freedom.

#### Mr. Gandhi's Draft

*Jawaharlalji*: Gandhiji's draft is an approach which needs careful consideration. Independence means, among other things, the withdrawal of British troops. It is proper; but has it any meaning our demanding withdrawal? Nor can they reasonably do it even if they recognise independence. Withdrawal of troops and the whole apparatus of civil administration will create a vacuum which cannot be filled up immediately.

If we said to Japan that her fight was with British Imperialism and not us she would say: "We are glad the British army is withdrawn; we recognise your independence. But we want certain facilities now. We shall defend you against aggression. We want aerodromes, freedom to pass our troops through your country. This is necessary in self-defence." They might seize strategic points and proceed to Iraq, etc. The masses won't be touched if only the strategic points are captured. Japan is an imperialist country. Conquest of India is in their plan. If Bapu's approach is accepted we become passive partners of the Axis Powers. This approach is contrary to the Congress policy for the last two years and a half. The Allied countries will have a feeling that we are their enemies.

*Kripalanjivi*, intervening, said that the draft was a declaration of their stand. England and America might put what interpretation they liked but they (the Congress) had no designs against them.

*Maulana Sahab*: What is our position? Shall we tell the British Government to go and allow the Japanese and Germans to come or do we want the British Government to stay and stem the new aggression?

*Pantji*: I want the right of self-government and we shall exercise it as we like. If the British troops and the rest must withdraw let them do so by all means and we shall shift for ourselves.

*Jawaharlalji*: A draft like this weakens their (the British Government's) position. They will treat India as an enemy country and reduce it to dust and ashes. They will do here what they did in Rangoon.

#### Creed Of Non-Violence

*Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel*: The draft says to the British "You have proved your utter incompetence. You cannot defend India. We cannot defend it either because you won't let us do. But if you withdraw there is a chance for us."

*Asaf Ali*: The draft asks us to accept non-violence for all time.

*Achut Patwardhan*: It was put to Gandhiji. He said that the Congress can take the stand that under existing circumstances non-violence was the best policy.

*Jawaharlal Nehru*: The whole background of the draft is one which will inevitably make the world think that we are passively lining up with the Axis Powers. The British are asked to withdraw. After the withdrawal we are to negotiate with Japan and possibly come to some terms with her. These terms may include a large measure of civil control by us, a certain measure of military control by them, passage of armies through India, etc.

*Kripalanjivi*: Why should it mean passage of armies through India, etc.? Just as we call upon the British and the Americans to withdraw their armies so also we ask others to keep out of our frontiers. If they do not, we fight.

*Jawaharlal Nehru*: Whether you will like it or not, the exigencies of the war situation will compel them to make India a battle-ground. In sheer self-defence they cannot afford to keep out. They will walk through the country. You can't stop it by non-violent non-cooperation. Most of the population will not be affected by the march. Individuals may resist in a symbolic way. The Japanese armies will go to Iraq, Persia, etc., throttle China and make the Russian situation more difficult.

#### Three Factors

The British will refuse our demand for military reasons apart from others. They can't allow India to be used by Japan against them. Our reaction in the event of refusal will be a passive, theoretical lining up with the Axis Powers. Japan may have an excuse for attack. We get involved in a hopeless logical quandary. We get hostility from every other element outside the Axis Powers. Japan will occupy strategic points. We get no chance to offer mass C.D. (civil disobedience). Our policy of sympathy with one group is completely changed.

So far as the main action is concerned there is no difficulty about Bapu's draft. But the whole thought and background of the draft is one of favouring Japan. It may not be conscious. Three factors influence our decisions in the present emergency. (i) Indian Freedom, (ii) Sympathy for certain larger causes, (iii) Probable outcome of the war who is going to win. It is Gandhiji's feeling that Japan and Germany will win. This feeling unconsciously governs his decision. The approach in the draft is different from mine.



**Achut Patwardhan :** I agree with Jawaharlalji's background but there are certain difficulties. The British Government is behaving in a suicidal manner. If we do not take decisions, Jawaharlalji's attitude will lead to abject and unconditional co-operation with British machinery which must collapse. If the battle of India is to be fought by Wavell, we shall do ourselves discredit if we attach ourselves to him. We talk of allying ourselves with the Allied nations. I doubt if America is a progressive force. The existence of the American army in India is not a fact which improves our situation. I was opposed to the Poona offer but not to talks with Cripps. Jawaharlalji's statement, after the negotiation broke down, distressed me. The trend of thought it disclosed lands us in a position which obliges us to offer unconditional co-operation to Britain. Our co-operation with Britain is an invitation to Japan.

#### Unarmed Resistance

**Rajendra Babu :** We cannot produce the proper atmosphere unless we adopt Bapu's draft. The Government has closed the door on armed resistance. We have only unarmed resistance to offer. We have therefore to strengthen Bapu's hands.

**Govind Vallabh Pant :** There is no difference of opinion so far as non-violence is concerned. There may be two opinions as to its effectiveness. Non-violent non-cooperation is not meant to be a demonstration. It is designed to prevent invasion or resist occupation. What will be our attitude to armed resistance, shall we assist it or at least do nothing to hamper it?

**Jawaharlal Nehru :** It (The reference is to certain amendments to the original draft suggested by Babu Rajendra Prasad) retains the approach in Bapu's original draft. The approach is a variation from the attitude we have taken up about Allies. At least I have committed myself to that sympathy 100 per cent. It would be dishonourable for me to resign from that position. There is no reason why that choice should arise. But it has arisen somewhat in this approach. The portion of the draft about resistance has some substance. The portion about minorities, princes, is unrealistic. We go on thinking in terms of what was and not what is and that is a dangerous thing in a rapidly changing situation. There is no difference among us about (i) our reactions to Government and (ii) our total inability to co-operate with the Government. Our programme of self-sufficiency and self-protection helps the Government but that cannot be helped. (iii) We do not embarrass the British war effort because that in itself would mean aid to the invader. We agree on these points but we have different ways of getting at them. It is true that since my approach is different my emphasis too would be different.

#### Pundit Pant's Attitude

**Pantji :** One test to apply to the draft is: whether it is consistent with our previous resolutions. The language about the condemnation of Cripps' proposals is highly exaggerated. If the proposals were so bad why did we spend so much time over them? My attitude today is: We must do our utmost to defend the country and swallow many things. If I can't co-operate with the British it is because it is not consistent with our dignity. But the approach in the draft makes every soldier I see my enemy.

**Asaf Ali :** The draft will not make any effective appeal to the Axis Powers. Telling the British to withdraw will do nobody any good.

**Bhulabhai Desai :** No resolution is called for. We passed at Wardha which expressed our definite position. The resolution is made in an unreal way. It is inconsistent with our previous stand. We have said that if offered an opportunity we shall side with the Allies.

**Rajaji :** I do not think the changed draft (The reference is to certain amendments to the original draft suggested by Babu Rajendra Prasad) is different from the original. We appeal to Britain and Japan. The appeal to Britain will fail but certain tangible results will follow. The entire policy of the Congress will be reinterpreted and the new interpretation will go terribly against us. Japan will say 'excellent.'

#### "A Comprehensive Draft"

I do not agree that if Britain goes away India will have some scope for organising itself even if Japan should make some headway. Japan will fill the vacuum created by the British withdrawal. Our reaction to evils of Britain should not make us lose our sense of perspective. It is no use getting upset on small matters. Do not run into the arms of Japan, which is what the resolution comes to.

**Dr. Pattabhi :** It is a comprehensive and appropriate draft. A time has come when we must realise ourselves. After the rejection of Cripps' proposals we must reconsider our attitude and restate our position. We have varied our position from time to time during the time the war has been on. Poona has a variation from the old position. Bombay has a variation from Poona. Bombay was followed by C.D. and C.D. by Cripps.

**Sarojini Naidu :** The changed draft (The reference is to certain amendments to the original draft suggested by Babu Rajendra Prasad) is much better than the original. There is however a great deal of unnecessary matter in the resolution. The appeal is a rhetorical gesture. It is however good as an expression of our extreme disgust and dislike and hatred of the British Government.

The appeal to Japan is a useless gesture. India is a part of the map they have drawn.

I agree with the non-violent non-cooperation part of the resolution. It can be recast keeping the substance of the original.

The draft is a narrowing of sympathies not consistent with the position we have taken up.

I do not like foreign soldiers. The portion dealing with them is good.

#### Conflicting Views

**Biswanath Das :** I see two conflicting views in the Committee. This division of opinion is fatal at this juncture. I generally agree with the draft. The Cripps' proposals if accepted would have kept us in permanent bondage. The appeal to Britain to withdraw is very proper. We can tell them that neither will they defend us nor allow us to defend ourselves.

The protest against the introduction of American soldiers in the country is also proper. They have brought in troops from dominions and other foreign nations. This is highly objectionable and dangerous.

**Bardoloi :** One portion of the draft is operative and another ideological. If we lay emphasis on the operative portion the differences will be greatly minimised. For joint action I should be prepared to delete the portion which deals with the ideological background. We are already in the danger zone. This is no time for ideological dis-

cussion. Let us concentrate on the present action which cannot be anything than non-violent non-cooperation.

**Satyamurthi :** The changed draft (The reference is to certain amendments to the original draft suggested by Babu Rajendra Prasad) is an improvement. I do not agree with the objection to the entry of foreign soldiers. India may defend herself even with the aid of foreign soldiers. I think we must make an approach to the Muslim League.

#### Open Door Policy

**Achut Patwardhan :** I am in general agreement with the draft. The open door policy is at an end. The resolution emphasises a factor which has been emphasised by every intelligent man, that is, the war is lost unless the people are in it. The war is an imperialist war. Our policy can be that we take no sides. The world is in the grip of fear complex. I would consider the position if the Allies could defeat the Axis. But I see clearly that Britain is going towards the deep. We want to create neutrality. Do not look to Japan or Britain.

**Jairamdasji :** The criticism that the draft is pro-Japanese is wrong. Opposition to the Japanese invasion is there in the draft.

The mention of foreign armies in the draft is very appropriate. Indian History bears ample testimony of the highly undesirable consequences which foreign armies have led to. The draft creates an atmosphere of neutrality. The attempt is worth making.

#### A Reply To Cripps' Mission

**Sardar Sahib :** I see that there are two distinct opinions in the Committee. We have ever since the outbreak of war tried to pull together. But it may not be possible on this occasion. Gandhiji has taken a definite stand. If his background is unsuitable to some members of the Committee there is the other background which is unsuitable to us. The first four or five paragraphs of the draft is a reply to the Cripps' mission. Cripps is a clever fellow. He has gone about saying that his mission has not been a failure. The draft is a perfect reply to his propaganda.

I am not in favour of making any approach to Jinnah. We have made repeated attempts and courted many insults. The Congress today is reeling under two blows, one Cripps and the other Rajaji's resolutions have done us enormous harm.

I have placed myself in the hands of Gandhiji. I feel that he is instinctively right in the lead he gives in all critical situations.

In Bombay, at the time of the A.I.C.C. meeting there was a difference in approach but the door to negotiation was closed. In Bardoli it was made clear that the door was still open and our sympathies were with Allies. It is time the door is finally closed after the repeated insults heaped upon us. I agree with the draft before us. If there is any pro-Fascist hint in the draft let it be removed.

#### The Japanese Threat

**Acharya Narendra Deo :** I do not agree with the view that the war is one and indivisible. The aims of Russia and China are not identical with those of Britain and America. If it is one we should join the war and side with Britain. Our position has not been that we want power because without it we cannot kindle the national spirit. Our position has been that if the war was a people's war and there was proof of it in action we are willing to throw in our weight on the side of democracies.



It is necessary to counteract the mischievous propaganda of Cripps. Cripps has been saying that internal differences have prevented a settlement. Rajaji has strengthened his hands. Japanese threat has also influenced our attitude to Britain. It has led us to even modify Poona.

We have to make it clear that Japanese threat has not unnerved us. We can tell the British to go, leaving us to our fate.

Whatever unreality there is in Indian politics is due to the British rule. Let it go and the unreality will disappear.

I am not interested in defeating Hitlerite Germany. I am more interested in war aims and peace aims.

*Maulana Sahib*: The discussion has been useful. But it is not clear to me the differences that divide the two groups.

Cripps was a great hope. He came here with the reputation of a radical. But he proved a great disappointment. He made things worse. Cripps in his statements after the failure of negotiations has emphasised two points: (i) his mission has proved the sincerity of the intentions of the British Government towards India, (ii) the anti-Japanese front is the outcome of this mission.

#### Nationalism

All this is false propaganda. Great Britain has made it impossible for us to defend our country. But we have something to do about the Japanese aggression.

It is my firm belief that nationalism is the only religion for a subject nation. If I feel that Japan was better than Britain and her invasion was for the good of India I would have said so in public. But it is not so. Gandhiji's prescription is the only alternative though I doubt its effectiveness.

Since the draft (The reference is to certain amendments to the original draft suggested by Babu Rajendra Prasad) presented by Rajendra Babu was not acceptable to Jawaharlalji and a few other members of the Committee the President asked Jawaharlalji to prepare a draft of his own. Jawaharlalji presented the following draft in the next sitting of the Committee. (APPENDIX II.)

The draft sought to cover the points contained in Bapu's draft but the approach was different. The discussions showed that the division of opinion revealed in the earlier discussions persisted. Jawaharlalji modified his draft with a view to accommodating better the other group but the difference in approach remained. The draft was not acceptable to the whole Committee. Thereupon the President put the two drafts to vote. Those who voted for Gandhiji's draft as modified by Rajendra Babu were Sardar Vallabhbhai, Rajendra Babu, J. B. Kripalani, Shankarrao Deo, Sarojini Naidu, Prafulla Chandra Ghosh.

Those who voted for Jawaharlalji's draft were Jawaharlal Nehru, Govind Vallabh Pant, Bhulabhai Desai and Asaf Ali. Among the invitees Shri Jairamdas Daulatram, Acharya Narendra Deo, Achut Pawardhan, Bardoloi, Biswanath Das voted for Rajendra Babu's draft and Shri Satyarnurthi and Mrs. R. S. Pandit voted for Jawaharlalji's draft.

Rajendra Babu's draft was passed by the Committee in the morning sitting on May 1. The subject was however reopened by the President in the afternoon sitting. He pleaded with those who supported Rajendra Babu's draft to accept Jawaharlalji's draft and make it a unanimous resolution. It was the President's opinion that there was practically no difference between the two drafts though the protagonists of

both the drafts held that a vital difference in approach persisted. Supporters of Rajendra Babu's draft yielded to the wish of the President and accepted Jawaharlalji's draft.

#### TEXT OF RESOLUTION

The draft resolution for the A.I.C.C. as was finally passed by the Committee is as follows:

#### Appendix I

Whereas the British War Cabinet's proposals sponsored by Sir Stafford Cripps have shown up British imperialism in its nakedness as never before, the A.I.C.C. has come to the following conclusions:—

The A.I.C.C. is of opinion that Britain is incapable of defending India. It is natural that whatever she does is for her own defence. There is an eternal conflict between Indian and British interests. It follows that their notions of defence would also differ. The British Government has no trust in India's political parties. The Indian army has been maintained up till now mainly to hold India in subjugation. It has been completely segregated from the general population who can in no sense regard it as their own. This policy of mistrust still continues and is the reason why national defence is not entrusted to India's elected representatives.

Japan's quarrel is not with India. She is warring against the British Empire. India's participation in the war has not been with the consent of the representatives of the Indian people. It was purely a British act. If India were freed her first step would probably be to negotiate with Japan. The Congress is of opinion that

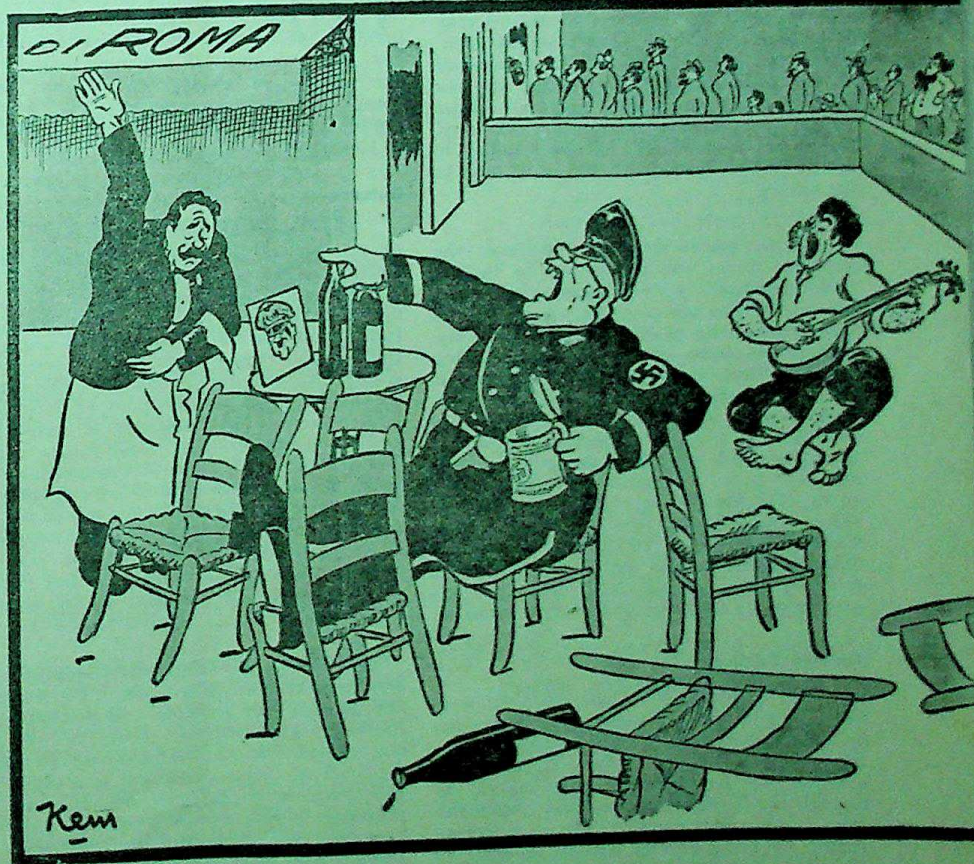
if the British withdraw from India, India would be able to defend herself in the event of Japanese or any aggressor attacking India.

The A.I.C.C. is, therefore, of opinion that the British should withdraw from India. The plea that they should remain in India for protecting the Indian Princes is wholly untenable. It is additional proof of their determination to maintain their hold over India. The Princes need have no fear from unarmed India.

The question of majority and minority is a creation of the British Government and would disappear on their withdrawal.

For all these reasons the Committee appeals to Britain, for the sake of her own safety, for the sake of India's safety and for the cause of world peace to let go her hold on India even if she does not give up all Asiatic and African possessions.

This Committee desires to assure the Japanese Government and people that India bears no enmity either towards Japan or towards any other nation. India only desires freedom from all alien domination. But in this fight for freedom the Committee is of opinion that India while welcoming universal sympathy does not stand in need of foreign military aid. India will attain her freedom through her non-violent strength and will retain it likewise. Therefore the Committee hopes that Japan will not have any designs on India. But if Japan attacks India and Britain makes no response to its appeal the Committee would expect all those who look to Congress for guidance to offer complete non-violent non-co-operation to the Japanese forces and not render any assistance to them. It is no part of the duty of those who are attacked to render



THE SUPERIOR RACE IN ROME—

—“HEIL HITLER! ANOTHER BEER!”



any assistance to the attacker. It is their duty to offer complete non-cooperation.

It is not difficult to understand the simple principle of non-violent non-co-operation :—

1. We may not bend the knee to the aggressor nor obey any of his orders.

2. We may not look to him for any favours nor fall to his bribes. But we may not bear him any malice nor wish him ill.

3. If he wishes to take possession of our fields we will refuse to give them up even if we have to die in the effort to resist him.

4. If he is attacked by disease or is dying of thirst and seeks our aid we may not refuse it.

5. In such places where the British and Japanese forces are fighting our non-co-operation will be fruitless and unnecessary. At present our non-cooperation with the British Government is limited. Were we to offer them complete non-co-operation when they are actually fighting, it would be tantamount to placing our country deliberately in Japanese hands. Therefore not to put any obstacle in the way of the British forces will often be the only way of demonstrating our non-co-operation with the Japanese. Neither may we assist the British in any active manner. If we can judge from their recent attitude, the British Government do not need any help from us beyond our non-interference. They desire our help only as slaves—a position we can never accept.

#### Scorched Earth Policy

It is necessary for the Committee to make a clear declaration in regard to the scorched earth policy. If, in spite of our non-violent resistance, any part of the country falls into Japanese hands we may not destroy our crops, water supply, etc., if only because it will be our endeavour to regain them. The destruction of war material is another matter and may under certain circumstances be a military necessity. But it can never be the Congress policy to destroy what belongs to or is of use to the masses.

Whilst non-co operation against the Japanese forces will necessarily be limited to a comparatively small number and must succeed if it is complete and genuine, the true building up of Swaraj consists in the millions of India wholeheartedly working the constructive programme. Without it the whole nation cannot rise from its age-long torpor. Whether the British remain or not it is our duty always to wipe out unemployment, to bridge the gulf between rich and poor, to banish communal strife, to exorcise the demon of untouchability, to reform dacoits and save the people from them. If crores of people do not take a living interest in this nation-building work, freedom must remain a dream and unattainable by either non-violence or violence.

#### Foreign Soldiers

The A.I.C.C. is of opinion that it is harmful to India's interests and dangerous to the cause of India's freedom to introduce foreign soldiers in India. It, therefore, appeals to the British Government to remove these foreign legions and henceforth stop further introduction. It is a crying shame to bring foreign troops in spite of India's inexhaustible man-power and is a proof of the immorality that British Imperialism is.

## Appendix II

### All-India Congress Committee Resolution, May 1, 1942

In view of the imminent peril of invasion that confronts India, and the attitude of the British Government, as shown again in the recent proposals sponsored by Sir Stafford Cripps, the All-India Congress Committee has to declare afresh India's policy and to advise the people in regard to the action to be undertaken in the emergencies that may arise in the immediate future.

The proposals of the British Government and their subsequent elucidation by Sir Stafford Cripps have led to greater bitterness and distrust of that Government and the spirit of non-co-operation with Britain has grown. They have demonstrated that even in this hour of danger, not only to India, but to the cause of the United Nations, the British Government functions as an imperialist government and refused to recognise the independence of India or to part with any real power.

#### India And The War

India's participation in the war was a purely British act imposed upon the Indian people without the consent of their representatives. While India has no quarrel with the people of any country, she has repeatedly declared her antipathy to Nazism and Fascism as to Imperialism. If India were free she would have determined her own policy and might have kept out of the war, though her sympathies would, in any event, have been with the victims of aggression. If, however, circumstances had led her to join the war, she would have done so as a free country fighting for freedom, and her defence would have been organised on a popular basis with a national army under national control and leadership, and with intimate contacts with the people. A free India would know how to defend herself in the event of any aggressor attacking her. The present Indian army is in fact an offshoot of the British army and has been maintained till now mainly to hold India in subjection. It has been completely segregated from the general population, who can in no sense regard it as their own.

#### Defence

The essential difference between the imperialist and the popular conceptions of defence is demonstrated by the fact that while foreign armies are invited to India for that defence, the vast man-power of India herself is not utilised for the purpose. India's past experience teaches her that it is harmful to her interest and dangerous to the cause of her freedom to introduce foreign armies in India. It is significant and extraordinary that India's inexhaustible man-power should remain untapped, while India develops into a battleground between foreign armies fighting on her soil or on her frontiers, and her defence is not supposed to be a subject fit for popular control. India resents this treatment of her people as chattels to be disposed of by foreign authority.

The All-India Congress Committee is convinced that India will attain her freedom through her own strength and will retain it likewise. The present crisis, as well as the experience of the negotiations with Sir Stafford Cripps, makes it impossible for the Congress to consider any schemes or proposals which retain, even in a partial measure, British control and authority in India. Not only the interests of India but also Britain's safety, and world peace and freedom demand that Britain must abandon her hold on India. It is on the

basis of independence alone that India can deal with Britain or other nations.

#### National Defence

The Committee repudiates the idea that freedom can come to India through interference or invasion by any foreign nation, whatever the professions of that nation may be. In case an invasion takes place, it must be resisted. Such resistance can only take the form of non-violent non-co-operation as the British Government has prevented the organisation of national defence by the people in any other way.

The Committee would therefore expect the people of India to offer complete non-violent non-co-operation to the invading forces and not to render any assistance to them. We may not bend the knee to the aggressor nor obey any of his orders. We may not look to him for favours nor fall to his bribes. If he wishes to take possession of our homes and our fields we will refuse to give them up even if we have to die in the effort to resist them. In places wherein the British and the invading forces are fighting our non-co-operation will be fruitless and unnecessary. Not to put any obstacle in the way of British forces will often be the only way of demonstrating our non-co-operation with the invader. Judging from their attitude the British Government do not need any help from us beyond our non-interference.

The success of such a policy of non-co-operation and non-violent resistance to the invader will largely depend on the intensive working out of the Congress constructive programme and more especially the programme of self-sufficiency and self-protection in all parts of the country.

## ENHANCED PENALTY FOR LOOTING

As it is probable that movements of the population affording an opportunity for "looting," which are at least indirectly attributable to enemy action or the fear of enemy action, may take place at a considerable distance from the actual scene of attack, an enhanced penalty for offences of the nature of "looting" and kindred offences in such circumstances is provided for by an amending Ordinance published in the *Gazette of India Extraordinary* dated June 10, 1942.

The Penalties (Enhancement) Ordinance designed to penalise what is commonly known as "looting" was drawn in such terms as to be applicable only in respect of offences committed in more or less close proximity to the scene of enemy action.

The amending Ordinance enables Provincial Governments to bring into force in specified areas an enhanced penalty of death or whipping for the following offences :—

Theft in a building ; theft after making preparations for causing death or hurt, etc., extortion by threatening death or grievous hurt ; extortion by threatening accusation of an offence ; robbery and attempt to commit robbery ; causing hurt in committing robbery ; dacoity and making preparation to commit dacoity.

The punishment of whipping will be available either in addition to or in lieu of other penalties (except, of course, death), both as regards the offences now made liable to an enhanced penalty and as regards those previously so made.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1942



## CLOSING OF SHOPS DURING HARTAL BANNED UNDER D. O. I. RULES

The closing of shops or restaurants on the occasion of a hartal is forbidden by a new Defence of India Rule published on August 7, 1942.

In order to maintain supplies essential to the life of the community the District Magistrate is empowered to require the proprietor of a shop or restaurant to keep it open during a hartal.

If a shop or restaurant is closed in contravention of a District Magistrate's order, the District Magistrate may cause it to be opened and business carried on through such agency as he may think fit and at prices specified in the order. He is authorised to use or cause to be used all such force as may be necessary for the enforcement of the order. A shop will be regarded as closed if the proprietor refuses to carry on business except on terms in excess of the normal.

Contravention of this order will be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

Supplies essential to the life of the community defined in the Schedule of the Rule include grains, pulses and flour and any foodstuffs made thereof; sugar and gur; milk and milk products including ghee; eggs; vegetable oils; vegetables and fruits; meat, fish and poultry; spices and

salt; kerosene oil, charcoal, steam coal, firewood and matches; medicines and household soap; fodder, bran, pollard and oil cakes.

### GOVERNMENT'S NEW POWERS TO DEAL WITH UNLAWFUL BODIES

Government already possess, under the Criminal Law Amendment Act, powers to proceed against associations which in their opinion interfere with the administration of the law, or the maintenance of law and order, or constitute a danger to the public peace. Such an association may be declared unlawful, whereupon all its activities become illegal and action can be taken against its funds and property.

Government have not hitherto possessed similar powers to proceed against any organisation which they consider to be working in the interests of the enemy and whose activities they hold to be prejudicial to the defence of British India or the efficient prosecution of the war. They have accordingly added to the Defence of India Rules the new rule 27-A which was published on June 22, 1942. This new Rule contains provisions closely parallel to those of a similar Regulation in the United Kingdom and also includes certain powers that may be used against unlawful associations under the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act.

### THE MENACE OF FASCISM

A message sent by the Hon'ble Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon, Defence Member, to the First Punjab Labour Defence Conference which met at Amritsar on August 2, reads :—

"It is more and more clear every day that the menace of Fascism has to be fought with all our resources mobilised to the utmost and I have no doubt your Conference will play a large part in driving home to labour the paramount necessity of concentrating our energies on this object, the defeat of Fascism and the defeat of all movements in this country which are likely to weaken the forces now fighting against Fascism. I hope that labour all over India will raise their voice in support of this object in unmistakable terms.

"As you are well aware, Government have taken and are taking all practical measures for securing the safety and welfare of workers."

### NEW DELHI AND SIMLA RENT CONTROL ORDERS

In order to stop the growing practice by landlords in New Delhi and Simla of receiving lump sum payments in excess of the prescribed rent before agreeing to lease their property, the Government of India have amended the New Delhi and Simla House Rent Control Orders, providing that

- (1) the landlord, or any person acting or purporting to act on behalf of the landlord, shall not claim or receive, in consideration of the grant, renewal or continuance of a tenancy of a house, any premium, advance, or other like sum in addition to rent or any rent in excess of the prescribed fair rent; and
- (2) if the landlord is convicted of charging any sum in excess of the prescribed fair rent, the Rent Controller may issue an order,
  - (i) prohibiting that landlord from granting or renewing lease or leases of parts or whole of his properties situated in the areas to which the relevant order applies after the expiry of a period of one month from the date on which the order is communicated to him, and
  - (ii) directing that he shall grant or renew such leases to such persons only as may be specified by the Controller by subsequent orders in writing.

### CHEQUES ACCEPTED FOR SAVINGS BANK TRANSACTIONS

By an amendment of the Post Office Savings Bank Rules, cheques will now be accepted for Savings Bank transactions if they fulfil certain prescribed conditions.

Single cheques if presented in payment of several Defence Savings Bank Income-Tax accounts by employers on behalf of their employees will be accepted provided other conditions of the Rules are satisfied.

## MARTIAL LAW AREA IN SIND PROVINCE EXTENDED

The administration of Martial Law over a defined area of Sind has already had a marked effect. Not only have a large number of Hur dacoits known to have been implicated in various outrages been apprehended and 33 hanged after trial and conviction by special tribunal but confidence is returning among the local inhabitants who are now in many cases giving valuable information as to the whereabouts of the Hur gangs.

It has now been found necessary to extend slightly the Martial Law area from 6 a.m. of July 29. This action was deemed necessary because between the river Indus and the railway on the west bank there are considerable tracts of forest which form convenient places for Hur gangs to collect or take refuge. The extension of the area will enable river traffic to be introduced for carrying grain, etc. down the Indus. This was previously not feasible as check of passengers to prevent movement and collection of Hur gangs was not possible.

The new boundary will be a line 5½ to 10 miles west of and parallel to the North-Western Railway running between Kotri and Sukkur.

### Decrease In Dacoities

Dacoities have to a large extent decreased as a result of the operations that took place early in July but one occurred recently at Hasisar station when one person was shot dead. The dacoits retreated northwards into the desert with loot; six were in police uniform. Troops and police gave chase.

Though rains and floods have hindered ground activity to a certain extent, most recent operations in the Martial Law area have included a round-up of Dehs in the Shahpur Chakar area where a large number of prisoners were taken among whom were three who were alleged participants in the murder of Public Works Department officials on June 20. Columns have also operated in Sukkur, Shahdadpur, Nawabshah and Khipri areas with good results.

Aircraft have been active throughout these operations, carrying out much useful reconnaissance work.

Indian States bordering the Martial Law area are giving much valuable assistance and Liaison officers have been appointed to carry out the necessary co-ordination.

### GOVERNMENT THANKED

Gratitude to Government for promulgating martial law in the Sind Province is expressed in a resolution passed at the annual conference of the Sri Guru Singh Sabha at Nawabshah.

The resolution pays tribute to the officers and men of the army, whose vigilance in combating dacoits has "enabled the residents of Sind to sleep soundly," and expresses a hope that martial law will be continued until the disturbances are finally quelled, and all the culprits have been severely punished.





A Club for Indian Seamen was opened at Liverpool by the Duke of Devonshire, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for India (in the centre). Below, the Duke of Devonshire (third from the right) photographed with Indian seamen

## CLUB FOR INDIAN SEAMEN OPENED AT LIVERPOOL

**"A** quarter of the whole personnel of the British Merchant Navy is Indian. We owe a very great deal to those Indian Seamen who are facing every peril in order that our sea-borne commerce might continue. Their contribution at sea has been absolutely vital and it is right that we should do what we could for the comfort of those gallant men for whom nothing would be too much."

Thus stated the Duke of Devonshire, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for India, declaring open recently a club for Indian seamen at Liverpool.

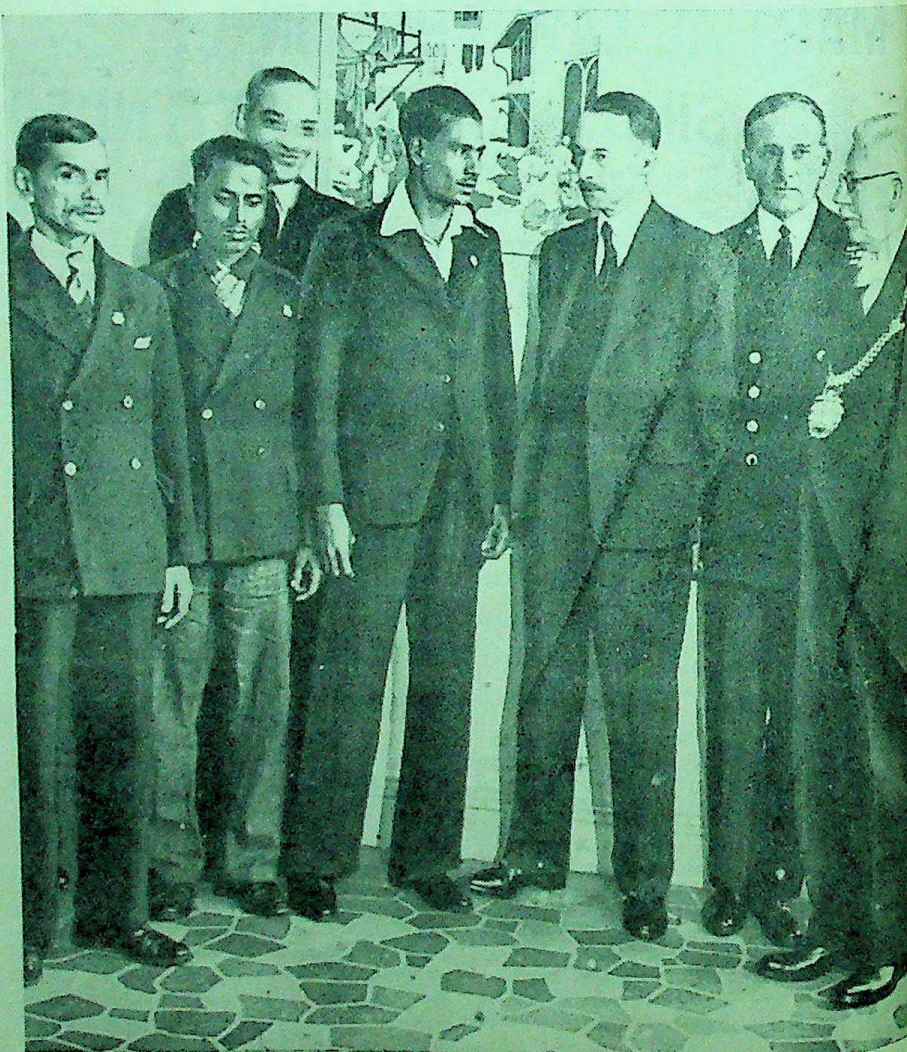
### Welfare Officers

Mr. S. Lal, I.C.S., then acting High Commissioner for India, who attended the function, remarked that it had always been the deep concern of the High Commissioner to see that Indian seamen were well looked after in England. The war had quickened the pace of their activities and they now had three welfare officers in England to look after the interests of Indian Seamen—one of the officers being stationed in Liverpool.

The Club is run under the auspices of the Mersey Mission to Seamen.

The King George's Fund for Sailors (War Fund) has provided the initial grant

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 242]



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(INDIA)



## INDIAN SEAMEN'S HOSTEL AT GLASGOW

**S**ir Patrick Dollan, former Lord Provost, presiding over the first anniversary meeting of the Missions to Seamen's Indian Hostel at Glasgow, said that over 50,000 Indian seamen on British ships were deserving gratitude and remembrance on the same scale as had been accorded to other Allied seamen. Without their aid, Britain's supplies could not have been maintained. The Indian Seamen's Hostel at Glasgow was the finest in Europe. It cost £10,000 and was to be retained as a permanent establishment after the war. Indians were entitled to the same amenities on shore or at sea as other seamen.

### Broadcasts From Delhi

The Reverend Denis Daly, Chaplain, stated that during the 12 months the Hostel had supplied 20,000 beds and 200,000 Indian meals. The seamen were able to hear broadcasts from Delhi and other places in India. The Hostel was run on a self-supporting basis with the help of volunteers. It was agreed to ask the Central War Fund and other organisations for contributions towards the funds, in which there was a deficit of almost £5,000.

## KING GEORGE'S (WAR) FUND FOR SAILORS

**"T**he officers and men of the Royal Navy, the Merchant Navy and Fishing Fleets, their families and dependants, deserve all we can do for them. It is for this reason we are now asking for more help."

So states the latest appeal for funds, from those living overseas, by the General Council of the King George's (War) Fund for Sailors, of which His Majesty the King is the Patron and H.R.H. the Duke of Kent the President. Explaining the need for more funds, the appeal states:

### Donors Thanked

"There are anxious times ahead during which the sailor will be exposed to dangers of an even greater scale than those with which he has already been confronted. We feel that it is essential to hold resources which are available when wanted and also to build up a reserve with a view to the immediate post-war period."

In a message thanking the donors, H.R.H. the Duke of Kent expresses his gratitude "for the continued generous support, showing as it does that the donors take a very real interest in our seamen and appreciate the unceasing risks which they experience during the war."

Up to the end of December, 1941, £860,506 (including interest) was received in the Fund and £371,258 distributed in grants. £84,250 was contributed from the Indian Empire.

### VICEROY CONGRATULATES THE PUNJAB

"I congratulate most warmly the people of the Punjab and War Committee on total of Provincial War Fund exceeding Rs. 1,00,00,000. This splendid achievement is another blow struck against the enemies of mankind and brings nearer the day of Victory. Go ahead and redouble your efforts," states a Message from H. E. the Viceroy.



Sheikh Abdul Hamid (centre) some time ago declared open a new home for Indian seamen at Liverpool. The Home also contains the only mosque in Liverpool

## THE VICEROY'S WAR PURPOSES FUND

**D**uring the fortnight ended July 15, 1942, a sum of Rs. 9,05,000 was contributed to His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund. Total collections up to the above mentioned date amounted to Rs. 7,13,00,000, which includes interest realised on investments of cash balances.

Payments in India and overseas during the fortnight aggregated Rs. 6,77,560. Total payments till the end of the period came to Rs. 6,15,04,160.

### Payments In India

Among payments in India, the outstanding items were Rs. 4,01,000 for the Defence Services Estimates for I.A.F., Rs. 14,000 for Defence Services Estimates, Rs. 80,000 for Amenities for Troops Fund, Rs. 16,000 for the Central Joint War Committee of the Indian Red Cross and St. John

Ambulance Association, Rs. 13,000 for the Royal Indian Navy and Rs. 37,000 for Motor Ambulances purchased in India.

Among payments overseas, the only important contribution was a sum of £8,270 paid for the purchase of Air-craft for R.A.F.

The Department of Central Excises and Salt, North-Western India, has contributed a further sum of Rs. 1,00,000 to H.E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund.

### ST. DUNSTAN'S SECTION

The 63rd list of donations and remittances received up to July 15, 1942, brings the total of the St. Dunstan's Section of H.E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund to Rs. 7,73,043-4-8.



INDIA HUT



Dewan Bahadur Sir S. E. Runganadhan (right), Adviser to the Secretary of State for India, outside India Hut, one of the rest-houses in Britain for the fighting services



Men of a searchlight unit are presented to Dewan Bahadur Sir S. E. Runganadhan. He presented furnishings provided by the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund to A.A. searchlights and gun

## REST HUTS FOR THE SERVICES IN ENGLAND

The Church Army provides rest and recreation for members of the fighting services in Great Britain and overseas. It has provided a number of rest huts, centres and mobile canteens for the benefit of anti-aircraft and Air Force units and troops scattered all over the United Kingdom and for the forces in the Middle East.

The "People of India Mobile Canteen," organised by the Church Army with the financial help given by H.E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, has continued to give

valuable help to men of isolated units in England. During the current year, up to the middle of April last, it had travelled 37,896 miles and served 258,860 men.

Latest advices from overseas record the arrival of the Church Army's first mobile canteen in Baghdad. Static centres are being opened in Iraq and Iran.

The work of the organisation continues to expand steadily. Besides new mobile canteens—they are now over 160—it has two mobile libraries, which are very popular.

DEWAN BAHADUR SIR S. E. RUNGANADHAN WITH THE MEN OF A SEARCHLIGHT UNIT IN THEIR FURNISHED HUT





## AMENITIES FOR TROOPS

### TROOPS RUN THEIR OWN THEATRE

Troops at India's Eastern Army Headquarters have organised a theatre of their own, setting a fine example of self-help to their comrades elsewhere in India who usually have to rely for entertainment on the garrison cinema, writes an Indian Army Observer.

The premiere at the new theatre was a long series of encores, which was a testimony to the excellence of the entertainment provided. It is intended, while conditions permit, to hold weekly shows which will help to fill in empty hours and to wear off the fatigue of strenuous training during the week.

Another happy event for troops in Eastern India was the opening recently in Calcutta of new Leave Hostels, where they

can spend their hard-earned leave cheaply and pleasantly.

Most of the recreation provided at the hostels is the result of voluntary subscriptions by civilians and is deeply appreciated by the troops. Already there has been a noticeable increase in applications for leave visits to Calcutta.

### SOLDIERS' WELFARE THE AIM OF NEW ARMY DIRECTORATE

The Army in India has launched an offensive against that enemy of all soldiers—boredom.

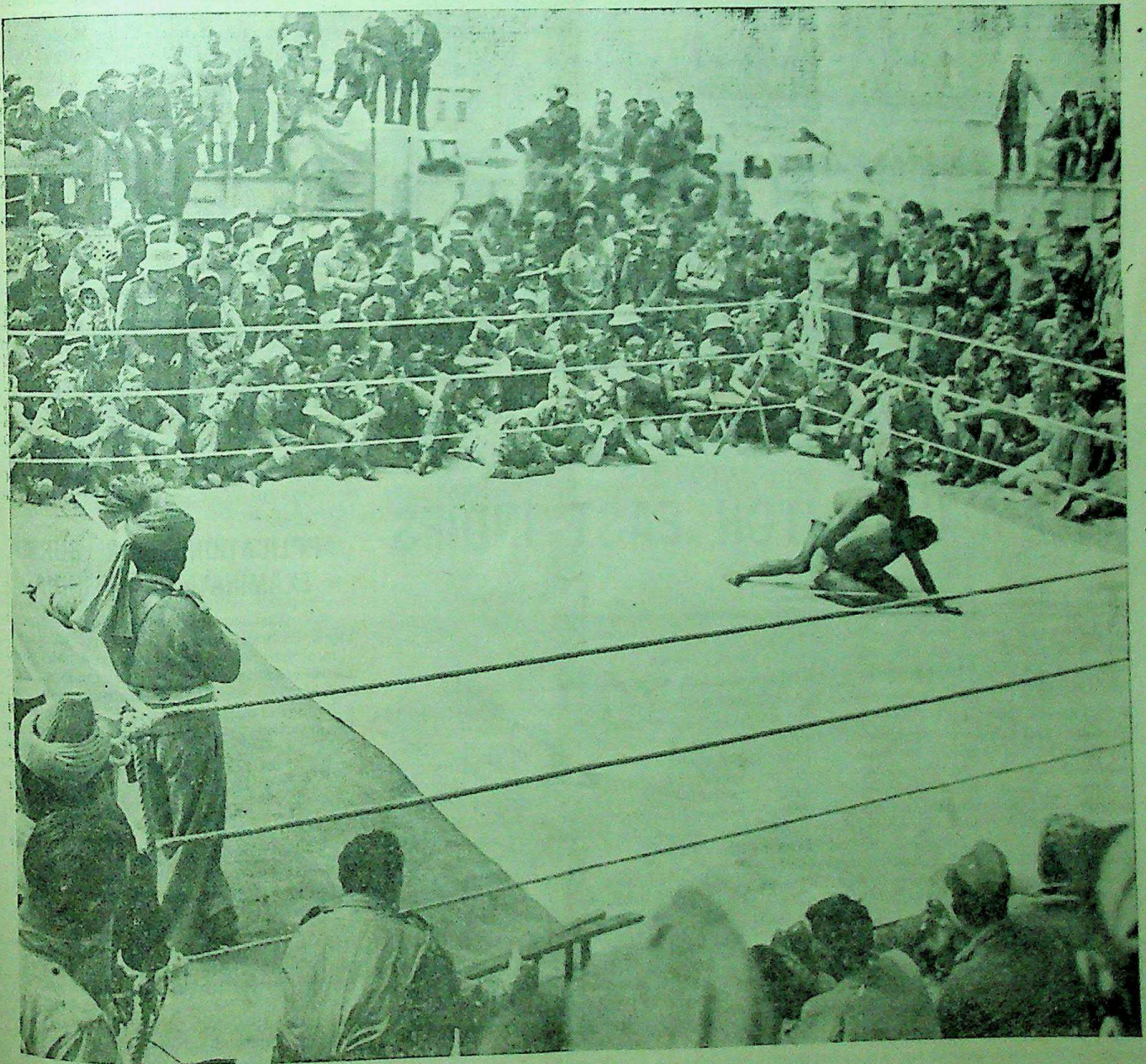
A new Directorate of Welfare Education absorbs the old Directorate of Amenities,

Comforts and Entertainments for the Services, and has as its objective the maintenance of morale, and the continuance of a spirit of contentment among British and Indian troops.

Through the medium of lectures on current affairs, radio talks, films and correspondence courses, it is hoped to stimulate the mental activity of troops, to improve efficiency, combat boredom, and prepare the men for the day when they will return to civil life.

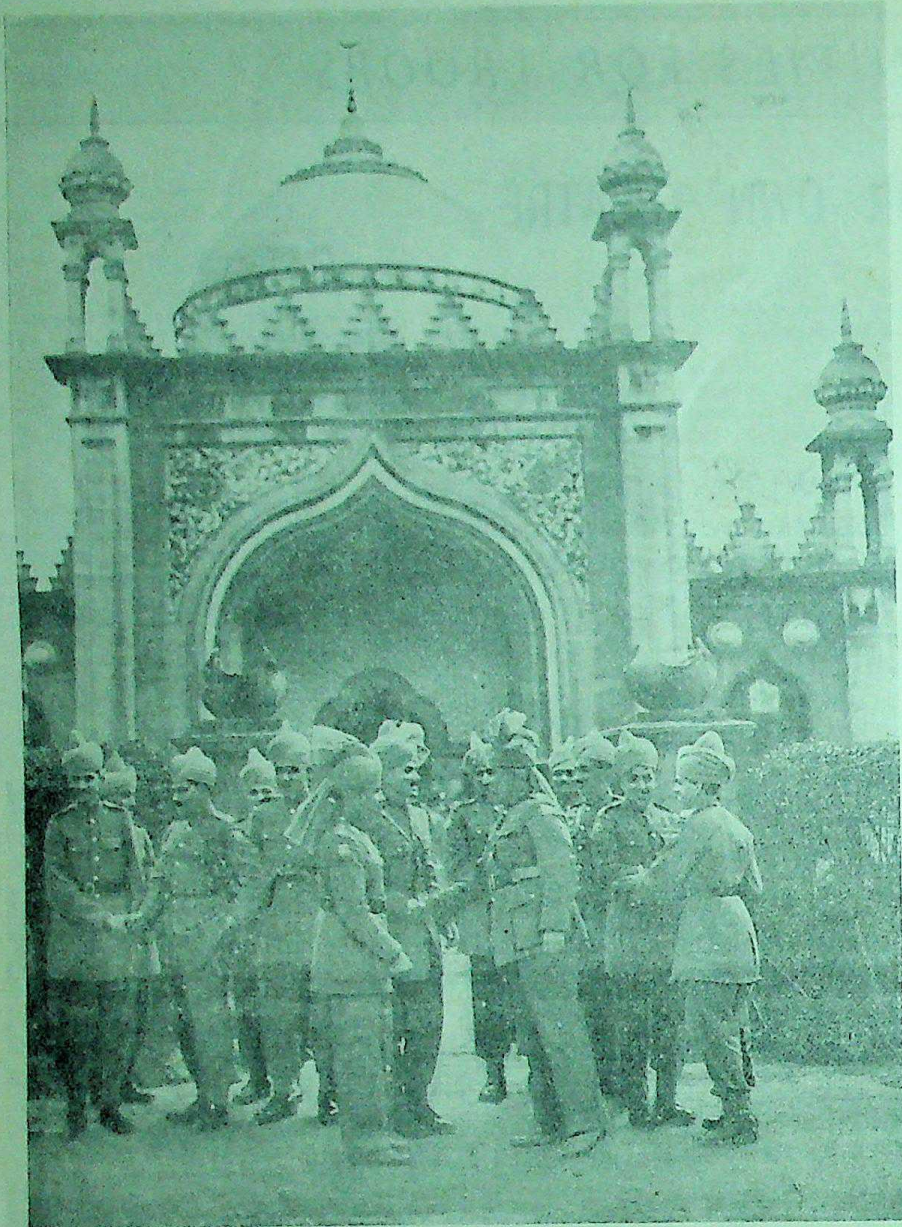
Particular attention is being paid to such subjects of general interest as the objects for which we are fighting, the ideals and objectives of our Allies and our enemies, the war effort of ourselves and our Allies, raw materials, shipping, man-power, the problem of the home front, current affairs, and post-war settlement.

A special section of the new Directorate will be responsible for the welfare of families of Indian troops.



TROOPS OFF DUTY—INDIAN SOLDIERS GIVE AN EXHIBITION OF WRESTLING AT A NEW ZEALAND CAMP IN SYRIA





SCENE AT THE WOKING MOSQUE IN ENGLAND DURING THE ID-UL-AZHA CELEBRATIONS

## ISLAM IN DUTCH EAST INDIES

The conversion of the vast majority of the inhabitants of the Netherlands East Indies to Islam was a gradual process, which began as early as the 12th century, and lost its impetus after the middle of the 16th century.

Traders who settled in the ports of Sumatra and Java were instruments for the propagation of Islam. In Sumatra there were already Moslem States in the 13th century. The "Nine Saints of Java," whose graves are still held in high veneration, were probably traders who obtained high favour with the Javanese Kings, intermarried with royal families and gradually became independent Princes, who at last secured the overlordship of Java and other islands.

Prof. Snouck Hurgronje, of Leyden University, has proved that the first protagonists of Islam, although of Arabic descent, came from India and therefore taught a form of Islam in which mysticism was preponderant and which conserved many of the old beliefs of India that between 400 and 1550 A.D. were prevalent too in the

Archipelago. The Shattariyah mystic brotherhood, strongly influenced by Indian thought, was dominant for over two centuries.

### Gradual Change

Gradually, a change took place which manifested itself, first in Sumatra, in the second half of the 18th century. Islam, especially outside of Java, lost many of its specific Indonesian and Indian traits and became more Arabised. More orthodox mystic Brotherhoods, like Qadiriya and Naqshibandiya, began to supersede the Shattariyah.

The principal causes of this development were, in the first place, that the Arabs in the Netherlands East Indies, who mostly are descendants of Hadram, no longer came from families long settled in India, but straight from Hadramaut, especially after steam navigation was introduced, which diminished distances. Contact with Arabia became closer. In the second place, already in the 18th century, when the shipping of the East Indies Company promoted long-distance voyages, and, more

so in the 20th century, an increasing number of Indonesians studied religion and Arabic in Mecca itself, often remaining there for many years and even obtaining great reputation as religious teachers. This colony in Mecca, and its members after their return to the Netherlands East Indies, strongly promoted Islam being professed in accordance with the original Arabic character. This development often caused friction, and even, at the end of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century, a long civil war on the western coast of Sumatra.

### Reformist Tendencies

New developments occurred when the reformist tendencies of teachers like Jamaludin el Afghani and Muhammad Abduh, who objected to the dogma of Ijma (infallibility of the consensus of the Moslem community), began to make themselves felt in the Netherlands East Indies. This time, it was Egypt which took the lead. Here again, at first, there was strong opposition, but that remarkable genius of Islam, which Snouck Hurgronje used to call the Catholic instinct of this religion, made the conflicting parties come together in the end and tolerate each other's views.

Simultaneously with these developments, Ahmadiyah, the Lahore Branch, as well as the Quadian Branch, started missionary work in Java. For some time it appeared as if the Lahore Ahmadiyah movement which is less heterodox than the Quadian, would conquer at least those Moslems who had had some Western education. At the Islam Congress of 1931, however, the opposition rallied and proved, conclusively for the majority of those present, that some tendencies of Ahmadiyah, especially its efforts to explain away the miracles of the Koran for those whose mode of thinking had been formed in modern Western schools, might be a danger to the character of Islam, and Ahmadiyah lost most of its popularity.

### Students For Baghdad

A new development may be expected from the fact that, in recent years, students from the Netherlands East Indies have gone to Baghdad, where the Iraq Government subsidises their studies.

The attitude of sympathetic interest in Islam and the Moslem community, coupled with complete religious freedom and abstention from all interference which is the basis of the Netherlands' policy towards Islam, has stimulated the peaceful development of this religion in the Netherlands East Indies.

## APPLICATIONS FOR BURMA EXAMINATIONS IN INDIA

No further applications for the Burma High School and Rangoon University Examinations can be received at Simla. Late entrants should now make direct applications to the Supervisor, Burma Examinations, care of the Registrar of the Universities at the following centres: Calcutta, Madras, Lucknow, Delhi, Bombay and Lahore; and for University examinations only, the Institute of Science, Bangalore.

Such late entrants will be allowed to take the examinations if local accommodation permits.

## CLUB FOR INDIAN SEAMEN

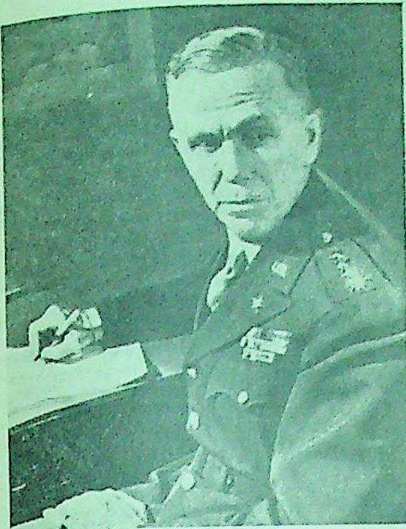
[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 238]

of £2,000 for starting the Club. The amount has been allotted out of contributions from India remitted to the King George's Fund through the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, which totalled £85,025 (or Rs. 8.67 lakhs) on June 30, 1942. Her Majesty the Queen-Empress has been graciously pleased to furnish the lounge of the Club through the Indian Comforts Fund.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1942



## PERSONALITIES



GENERAL MARSHALL, CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE UNITED STATES

### GENERAL MARSHALL

When General George Cattett Marshall was appointed Chief of Staff of the United States, the Army and the country knew they had the right man. His former chief, General John G. Pershing, had described him as "a man who understands military." His was to be the task of heading the greatest U. S. army ever created.

General George Marshall was born in 1880 of old Kentucky stock in Uniontown, Pennsylvania. His father was a coal and wood dealer. The boy was only a fair student, for military strategy and tactics were so important to him even then that literature, languages and ordinary schooling had to take a back seat while he memorised the strategic details of Civil War battles.

#### Fellow-Generals' Tribute

His mind has been called—by fellow-generals, who certainly ought to know—the world's greatest storehouse of the history of tactics, and of the ways and means of warfare, past, present and future.

And all his life, since General Marshall entered the U.S. Army as a Second Lieutenant in 1902, he has been acquiring this information in a most thorough and active and masterful fashion. He began by joining the 30th Infantry in the Philippine Islands. In 1915 he was back in the Philippines, with somewhat different insignia on his shoulder-straps. In these intervening 13 years he had served at Army posts which made a whole circle of the United States—and was already a seasoned and distinguished expert in the workings of both field and staff.

#### In France During The War

The first World War sent him, of course, to France, where his job was that of Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations. In October, 1918, he was promoted to the Chief of the Operations Section of the General Staff of the First American Army. But the more high-sounding his title, the more actively he seems to have pitched in and fought the war.

He took part in the two great American offensives at St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne. It was only after the Armistice, in May, 1919, that he could be spared to become General Pershing's aide-de-camp, and to

serve in the post of superlative dignity in Washington for the next five years.

In 1924 he was ordered to China. There he served for nearly three years with the 15th Infantry at Tientsin. There, too, he gathered an immense amount of on-the-spot knowledge of the Orient and its broad-sweeping terrain in terms of military possibilities. He has become just as much an expert in Asia's battle-grounds as in America's.

When he came back to the United States, he came as Commander of the Infantry School and as one of the Army's most commanded and bemedalled officers.

It was in 1936, a full 34 years after he had joined the Army as a subaltern in the Philippines, that George C. Marshall was raised to his first generalship. From Brigadier General he has mounted to the highest rank of all in the American military personnel. He shares with only one other active military man, General Douglas MacArthur, the title of full General. He is the Chief of Staff, and no man is his superior excepting the man who appointed him, President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Washington correspondents picture General Marshall—always with a great deal of affection and respect—as a man of unshakable patience and persistent good nature, who works hard, fights steadily for what he knows the army needs, and who can floor even the most inquisitive Congress-man with his flow of facts.

General Marshall usually stays in a simple house on Officers' Row, Fort Myer, Virginia, near Washington. Number One, Fort Myer, is his home address, famous throughout the entire army. When he is there, his working day begins at 6 a.m. with a horseback ride. Seven-thirty finds him in his Washington office. And he stays at work until far into the night.

### MR. HENRY FORD CELEBRATES HIS 79th BIRTHDAY

Mr. Henry Ford, the American automobile genius, observed his 79th birthday on July 30.

Though a peace-loving man, he is using his gigantic war production facilities day and night to help win the war.

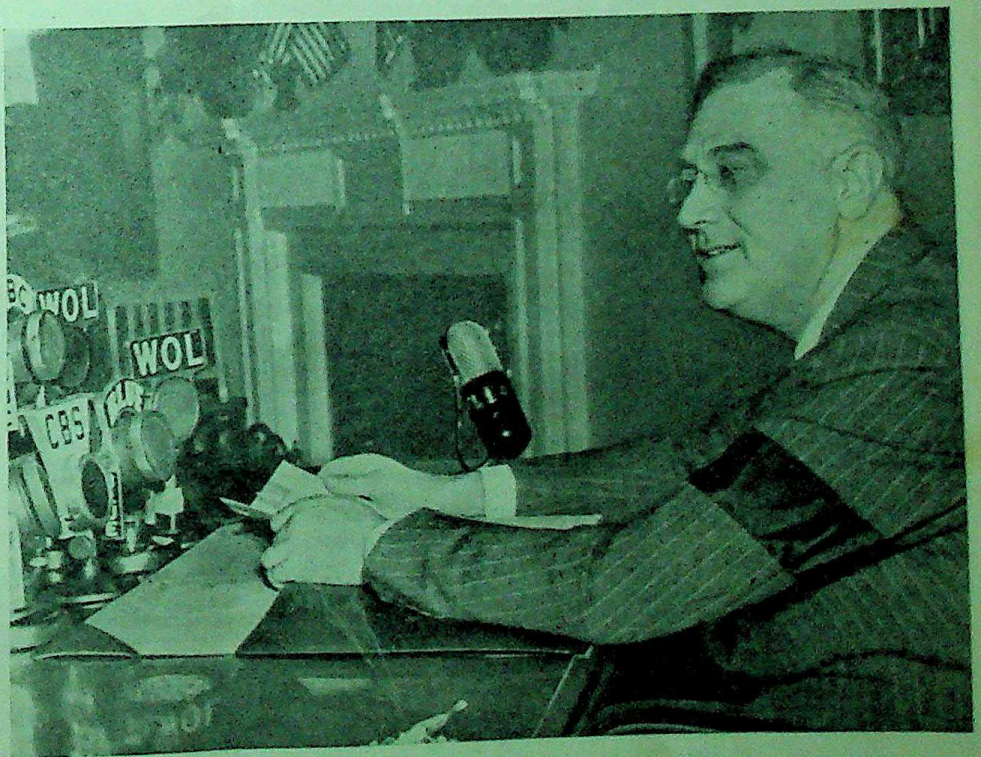
He is as alert and lively as men half his age. He has been a hard worker all his life, and he still believes in the philosophy embodied in the adage, "Chop your own wood, and it will warm you twice."

Almost daily, Mr. Ford may be seen at his giant tank or bomber plant conferring with production chiefs.

#### Battle Of Production

He has hated war all his life. In 1915, he spent \$400,000 for a peace ship to go to Europe to settle World War I, but he failed in his endeavour. However, then as now, when the United States entered the conflict, Mr. Ford rolled up his sleeves and helped to win the battle of production. Mr. Ford's Willow Run plant in Michigan is the largest bomber plant in the world.

Today, the man who rose from a 24-dollar-a-week mechanic to one of the world's most successful industrialists has a 4,000,000,000-dollar armament programme including tanks, aircraft engines and four-engined bombers—the latter being produced faster than anyone had ever dreamed possible.



"The price for civilization must be paid in hard work and sorrow and blood. The price is not too high", declared President Roosevelt broadcasting from the White House on April 28, 1942



## PERSONALITIES

M. SARADJOGLU, NEW  
PREMIER OF TURKEY

**T**oday Turkey has a new Cabinet. Bay Shukru Saradjoglu has been entrusted by Ismet Ineunu with the formation of a new Cabinet. Within six hours from receiving the presidential mission and forty hours after Dr. Saydam's death, M. Shukru Saradjoglu presented his new Cabinet.

There are no major changes in the whole Cabinet. Only two ministers do not hold office again and the others have been maintained in the positions they have occupied before the change. It would be interesting to discuss the meaning of this *status quo*.

In the first place, Premier Saradjoglu has kept his post as Foreign Minister of Turkey which he had been holding since 1938. The fact alone that it was M. Saradjoglu who had been entrusted by the President of the Republic with the formation of the new Cabinet was an assurance that Turkey would continue to follow her traditional policy towards the United Nations based on the Treaty of Mutual Assistance with Great Britain signed in September 1939 at Ankara. It will be remembered that M. Saradjoglu signed the Treaty for Turkey and was its chief promoter. The fact that M. Saradjoglu, in spite of the ever-growing burdens and responsibilities which the office of Premier of Turkey now holds in store for him, has chosen to continue being Foreign Minister of Turkey is a double guarantee that Turkey will maintain her present policy.

**No Change in Policy**

This policy of Turkey's must now be clear to everybody. It is, in the first place, her desire to maintain her neutrality during the present conflict as long as possible; to withstand all pressure, military and political, from whatever side it comes; to refuse all demands which are incompatible with her national honour; to defend by force of her arms any military violation of her national territory and maintain the independence of the Republic; to maintain and fulfil all stipulations and obligations arising from existing treaties which Turkey has signed.

It would be false to assume that now that M. Saradjoglu is in power there will be marked changes in Turkey's foreign policy. As supreme chief of the People's Republican Party, the President of the Republic can and does influence the policy of his country, indirectly it is true, but very effectively through the party members who are also members of the Cabinet and the Medjlis and, therefore, owe him allegiance in the disciplinary spirit of the party regulations. In times of political stress like the present, the control of the President of the Republic tightens.

President Ismet Ineunu has given his country a definite path to follow, and in all his speeches to the Medjlis he has reiterated the same points of Turkey's foreign policy. M. Saradjoglu is known to have always professed the same views and that his views, besides being identical with those of the President, have never changed. M. Saradjoglu is by no means a yes-man and this might perhaps lead to the idea that he will show his friendship for Great Britain and aversion for Germany more openly.

This belief based on the following points, is erroneous. It comes from the deduction that the man who signed the Anglo-Turkish treaty will incline more in Britain's favour. It resides, moreover, in



M. SARADJOGLU

the belief formed that M. Saradjoglu never forgets and consequently he will never forget the German Press campaign against him after he had signed the treaty.

Events, however, will prove that those who think this way are wrong. He will continue to try and maintain the same correct and cool relations towards Germany and the other Axis countries and if Germany makes no act of provocation there will be no quarrels.

One thing, however, is certain, too. He will not tolerate any effort on the part of Germany to bring political pressure to bear on Turkey and will react immediately. M. Saradjoglu's sentiments are well known to the President and, therefore, if the President has chosen this man to head his Government it is that it is also his sentiments.

**Turkish Neutrality**

It was quite natural, therefore, that the new Cabinet should be well received in United Nations' diplomatic circles. The United Nations have derived great advantages from Turkey's present position and policy. One must only consider the following facts as explained by a leading official of the country. Turkey is free at any moment to choose her own policy and make her preparations, also to take decisions affecting her future without asking anybody. Treaties today are treaties as long as the common interests of the signatories continue to run parallel. Britain's and Turkey's interests do so and will continue to do so, because Britain, beyond keeping her sea-lanes to India open, has no other vital interests in the Mediterranean and therefore a strong Turkey does not affect her. This is not the case with Italy, Spain and now Germany.

Take it the other way. If Turkey had entered the war on Britain's side last year, when the war was raging close to her frontiers in the Balkans, we know where Germany would be now if we do not forget Germany's progress in Russia against a well-equipped army of ten to twenty millions. If Turkey, however, had thrown in her lot with Germany, the result would have been the same, with the exception that Turkey would not have shed blood. Turkey's neutrality is of the greatest service to the United

Nations. Turkey guards the back-door to India, the back-door to the Caucasus and the front door to the Middle East.

M. Saradjoglu's appointment has been welcomed throughout the country, which is more important than anything else for the moment. Born of peasant parents at Odemis in the province of Smyrna, he is the son of the people and does not represent in their eyes anything connected with the much dreaded Ottoman regime. This is extremely important now when the Government is embarking on an important food distribution programme which depends so much on the willingness of the peasant to sell. The Turkish peasant still dreads the tax-collector and the State official because the terror of these officials of the Ottoman regime has not yet gone out of their bones. Now they know that if M. Saradjoglu decides to take a measure which affects them, he is not doing them in.

There was the same response in the towns. M. Saradjoglu has been Minister of Public Education, Minister of Finance and Minister of Justice. He has studied at the school of Political Sciences in Istanbul, and followed university courses in Belgium and at Geneva. After he had been Minister of Finance, during which period he stabilised Turkish currency and founded and organised the Central Bank of the Turkish Republic, he went to the United States to study economic problems. He will not only help to assure Turkey's foreign policy but also to contribute effectively to the country's economic needs.

**Cabinet Changes**

The Cabinet remains unchanged as a whole, most of the ministers retaining their posts. Two changes only have been thought necessary. In the place of Mumtaz Okmen as Minister of Trade, there is a new Minister Dr. Behcet Us; who was Mayor of Smyrna until autumn last year for nearly 14 years. He found a decayed and burned out town, with a poor population and derelict harbour. When he left it, it was the second most flourishing town in Turkey after Istanbul. He rebuilt the town completely and gave it a modern aspect. The population of the town has grown and the harbour is again active. The export of the town and the province is also flourishing and Smyrna is the biggest exporter of dried fruits and tobacco.

The second change is at the Ministry of Agriculture. In the place of Muhlis Erkmen, Sevket Rashit Hatipolu has been appointed. He will have to see to it that the agricultural plans approved by the Medjlis are carried out and one must expect a new drive for the intensification of Turkey's agriculture.

**Tribute To Dr. Saydam**

The new Turkish Cabinet enters its term of office at a time when everybody's eyes are turned to Russia and the Middle East. The Turkish people are comforted to know that the country's destinies are in the hands of its President. They are also glad that the man who is called upon to carry out the decisions taken should also express the country's spirit. M. Shukru Saradjoglu is probably the most popular Prime Minister since Ismet Pasha. He will try to imitate the spirit of abnegation shown by his predecessor who, in the words of the President, "served his country for 20 uninterrupted years. It is our debt to be grateful to him for all he has done and our duty to make our gratitude the model for coming generations." That was Dr. Saydam who served his country and died for it. M. Saradjoglu will do the same.



# WEIGHTS, MEASURES—COINAGE—GLOSSARY—POINTS ABOUT INDIA

## WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Weights and measures in India vary not only from district to district but also for different commodities.

The principal units in all the scales of weights are the maund, seer and tola, and the standard weights for each of these are 82.28 lbs., 2.057 lbs. and 180 grains troy respectively.

The Indian tola is the same weight as the rupee, viz., 180 grains troy; the standard or railway seer is equal to 2.057 lbs. while the standard or railway maund of 40 seers is equivalent to 82 lbs. 4 oz. 9 drams. There are numerous local variations.

## COINAGE—RUPEE IN DOLLARS AND POUNDS

Re. 1 is approximately 1s. 6d. or 30.65 cents.  
Rs. 100 are approximately £7/9/6 or \$30.65.  
Rs. 1,000 are approximately £74/14/10 or \$300.53.  
Rs. 1,00,000 (a lakh) are approximately £7,473/19/2 or \$30,053.  
Rs. 1,00,00,000 (a crore) are approximately £747,395/16/8 or \$3,005,259.  
100,000 is one lakh (1,00,000)  
10,00,000 is one crore (1,00,00,000)

### COINAGE

3 pies are 1 pice.  
4 pice are 1 anna.  
16 annas are 1 rupee.

## GLOSSARY OF SOME COMMON INDIAN TERMS

Abkari	Excise.
Ahimsa	Non-violence.
Akhbar	Newspaper.
Amir (or Emir)	Nobleman; Chief.
Anjuman	Association; gathering.
Badmash	A bad character; a ruffian.
Bahadur	Brave; Heroic; a title.
Bajra (or Bajri)	Millet.
Begum	A lady of high family; a Princess.
Bhang	Hemp leaf (used as an intoxicant).
Bharat	India.
Bigha	A measure of land (about a third of an acre).
Bund	Embankment.
Pustee	Slum; collection of huts.
Chapati	Unleavened bread made in thin flat cakes.
Chaprassi	Orderly; bearer.
Charka (or Charkha)	A spinning wheel.
Charpoy	A bedstead with a mattress made of woven rope or tape.
Chowkidar	A village policeman.
Dak	Post; mail.
Dal	Pulses.
Dewan	Prime Minister to an Indian Chief; a title.
Durbar	A ceremonial court; a levee.
Durwan	A door-keeper; a commissionaire.
Fakir; Sadhu	Mendicant: fakir generally to Muslims.
Ghee	Clarified butter.
Godown	Store-room; warehouse.
Goonda	A ruffian; a bad character.
Grantha Saheb	Sikhs' Bible or Book of Prophets.
Gur	Crude sugar.
Guru	A Hindu religious preceptor.
Haj	A pilgrimage by a Muslim to Mecca. (Hence 'Haji,' one who has performed the Haj.)
Harijan	Untouchables (brought into current use by Mr. Gandhi; literal meaning "people of God").
Hundi	A bill of exchange; a draft.
Imam	The leader in Muslim prayer.
Jagir	Land given by Government as reward. (Hence 'Jagirdar,' holder of a jagir).
Jamadar	Indian officer in the army or police (lowest rank).
Jirga (or Jirgah)	A council of tribal elders (especially of the Frontier clans or tribes).
Jogi (Yogi)	A Hindu ascetic.
Jowar	Millet (the large species).
Khadi (or Khaddar)	Cloth made on a handloom from hand-spun yarn.
Khalsa	Lit. 'pure,' 'society of the pure,' founded by Guru Govind Singh, is now equivalent to the Sikh community.
Khan	A Pathan chief or nobleman; a Pathan title.
Khas	Personal; private; reserved; state-owned.
Kisan	An agriculturist; a farmer.
Kutchra	Raw; green; unripe; inefficient; irregular; unfinished.

## POINTS ABOUT INDIA

Viceroy—H. E. The Marquess of Linlithgow, K.T., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., O.B.E., D.L., T.D.



### MEMBERS OF THE VICEROY'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

His Excellency General Sir Archibald Percival Wavell, G.C.B., C.M.G., M.C., British Service, Commander-in-Chief in India (War).

The Hon'ble Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E. (Defence).

The Hon'ble Mr. Nalini Ranjan Sarker (Commerce).

The Hon'ble Sir Hormusji P. Mody, K.B.E. (Supply).

The Hon'ble Sir Sultan Ahmed (Law).

The Hon'ble Sir Reginald Maxwell, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., L.C.S. (Home).

The Hon'ble Dewan Bahadur Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar (India's Representative at the British War Cabinet and on the Pacific War Council in London).

The Hon'ble Dr. B. R. Ambedkar (Labour).

The Hon'ble Sir E. C. Benthall (War Transport).

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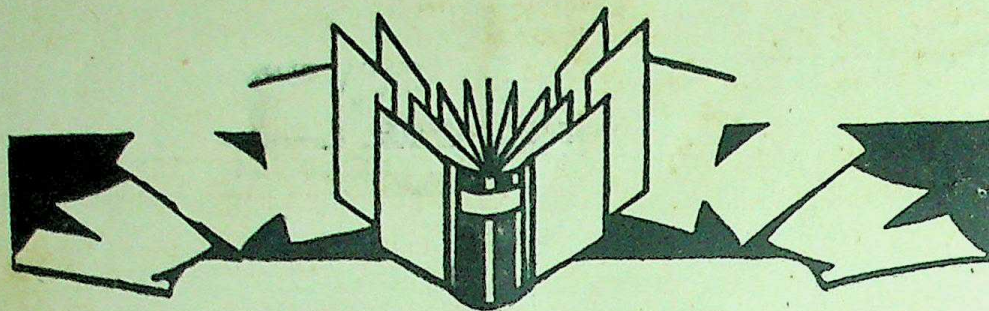
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# INDIAN INFORMATION



No. 102, October 1,  
Issued Fortnightly by the  
Information Officer,  
Department of India

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• INDUS COMMISSION REPORT



## They Said

"When victory comes we shall stand shoulder to shoulder in seeking to nourish the great ideals for which we fight. It is a worthwhile battle. It will be so recognised through all the ages even amid the unfortunate peoples who follow false gods today. We reaffirm our principles. They will bring us to a happier world."—*President Roosevelt, in a message on the first anniversary of the signing of the Atlantic Charter.*



"The victory for democracy must bring to this agonized world a new era in which the liberty of nations will be firmly founded on the dignity of mankind. Difficult hours are still ahead but the day will come when the democracies will triumph."—*Nahas Pasha, the Egyptian Prime Minister, in a broadcast on the sixth anniversary of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty, August 26.*



"Remember, these forces are your protection. They stand between you and the horrors of Nazi or Japanese domination; they are the defenders not only of your political liberties but of your personal liberties, your right to follow your own way of life and your own religion, to educate your children, to obtain justice in the courts, to live as freemen and not as slaves, all these benefits of which a Nazi victory would deprive you. Surely those who are ready to lay down their lives for the sake of you and your children deserve all the comforts and friendly gifts which it is in your power to give them."—*H.E. Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, in a broadcast from Madras.*



"I feel that even the German High Command Staff will hesitate before attempting to cross these mountains. Many of my senior officers fought in this area during the last war, and they know the formidable nature of the country and the difficulties of warfare; they are confident that the Russians can hold. Should the Germans, however, decide to drive south and, by some miracle, break through the Caucasus and threaten our frontiers, we shall declare war and fight on the side of the Allied Nations. Our military defence lines throughout Iraq are sound. Furthermore, we have full faith in our neighbour, Turkey. We know she will not allow any aggression on her territory."—*General Nuri Al-Said, Premier of Iraq, in an interview with Reuter's special Middle Eastern correspondent.*





Vol. II, No. 102

## INDIAN INFORMATION

October 1, 1942

INDIAN  
INFORMATION  
IS A  
REFERENCE  
RECORD

**AIMS:**—To provide a condensed record of the main peace and war activities of the Government of India, together with some outstanding facts about the British Government's war activities. INDIAN INFORMATION does not compete with the Press; it exists for their convenience and is not intended for general circulation among the public.

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**FORMAT:**—Headings, sub-titles and bold face passages are inserted to facilitate reading, but they should not in themselves necessarily be considered as expressions of official opinion or emphasis.

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LADDER DURING AN A.R.P. PRACTICE  
AT BOMBAY



## ♦ FACTS AND FIGURES ♦

How the tank first got its name is related by Major Paul C. Raborg in his book entitled "Mechanized Might": The British built the first tanks in World War I with complete secrecy. Even the workmen who made them did not know for what purpose they were being built. They were told that the machines were to be used in Egypt for transporting large containers of water, and every record in connection with their manufacture was made under the heading 'water carrier.' Eventually the men in the factories adopted the word 'tank' for brevity. The name stuck and is now used by practically all countries.

Even boys and girls are helping in Britain. Seven out of every ten between the ages of 14 and 17 are doing war work.

The annual expenditure on Civil Defence in each Province is divided into slabs, the amounts of the slabs varying from Province to Province according to the varying circumstances of each. The first slab is the liability of the Province, but of the second the Government of India bear 50 per cent and of the third 75 per cent, while all expenditure in excess of this is borne by them to the extent of 87½ per cent.

Under the Pilots Training Scheme 340 cadets were posted for training, in 1940-41, of whom 244 completed the course. Of these no less than 241 were taken into the Indian Air Force—209 as pilots and 32 as observers. In February, 1941, a scheme for training aircraft mechanics was started with the intention of training 2,000 mechanics a year for two years at a total cost of Rs. 59½ lakhs. So far, 2,308 trainees have been posted to training centres. Of these, about 800 have been absorbed in the Indian Air Force, 100 in civil industry and about 600 are still under training.

By the use of mechanical sprayers a ship can be rid of mosquitoes in five minutes.

The receipts from income-tax which have shown a steady increase since 1936-37 have of late been mounting very rapidly. As against Rs. 13.86 crores in 1936-37, the revenue from this source was Rs. 21.77 crores in 1940-41, about Rs. 44 crores in 1941-42 and is expected to be no less than Rs. 64 crores in the current year. A remarkable feature of the income-tax administration, however, is that the expenditure of this Department which was Rs. 78 lakhs in 1936-37 is expected to be only Rs. 86 lakhs in 1942-43 in spite of the revenue collected having increased almost five times.

What is probably the world's first tank destroyer training centre was officially opened in the United States in September, complete with barracks, workshops, ranges and training grounds for 39,000 men.

Brazil is a semi-continent; it covers almost half of the total area of South America and its 3 million square miles of territory are larger than the continental United States. Its population is more than 43 million.

One home out of every five in Britain has been destroyed or damaged in air raids over Britain. Over 44,000 civilians have been killed and over 50,000 injured. 1,000 were killed in April of this year.

At Itabira, in Minas Geraes, there is the largest iron deposit in the world. It contains between twelve and fifteen billion tons of iron ore of the highest grade, ore that is 64.66 per cent pure iron, of a quality that is far superior to that found in Lorraine and equal to that of Sweden.

The Amazon jungles with more than 300 million rubber trees represent a vast natural wealth.

Brazil produces 69% of the world's coffee.

The Bengal Tribunal has so far secured employment for 91 evacuees, nearly 25 per cent of the number registered in that Province. Madras comes next having secured employment for 20, nearly 22 per cent of the evacuees registered there. The Punjab and N.-W.F.P. Tribunal has secured employment for seven evacuees, the Bombay Tribunal for two and the C.P. and Berar Tribunal for one.

The total number of employees of the Railways at the end of 1941-42 was no less than 7,30,000.

Workers and employers in Britain have sacrificed peacetime rights to ensure maximum production. 8,000,000 workers in essential industry cannot quit their jobs or be dismissed, except by permission of the Government.

India contributes now about a tenth of the total expenses of the League of Nations.

The cost of the new 41 swimming pools at 28 stations in India sanctioned by the War Department is estimated at Rs. 3,24,000 initial and Rs. 1,12,000 recurring.

How tea plantation developed in the 19th century is shown by the fact that in 1901 the tea planters of Assam paid £41,000 in land revenue in addition to £5,000 as local rates, while the gardens employed over 600,000 labourers.

Between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea there is a stretch of land some 300 to 500 miles wide. It is like a bridge leading from Asia Minor, viz., from Turkey and Iran to Eastern European Russia—This bridge is the Caucasus, which has the second largest oilfield in the world.

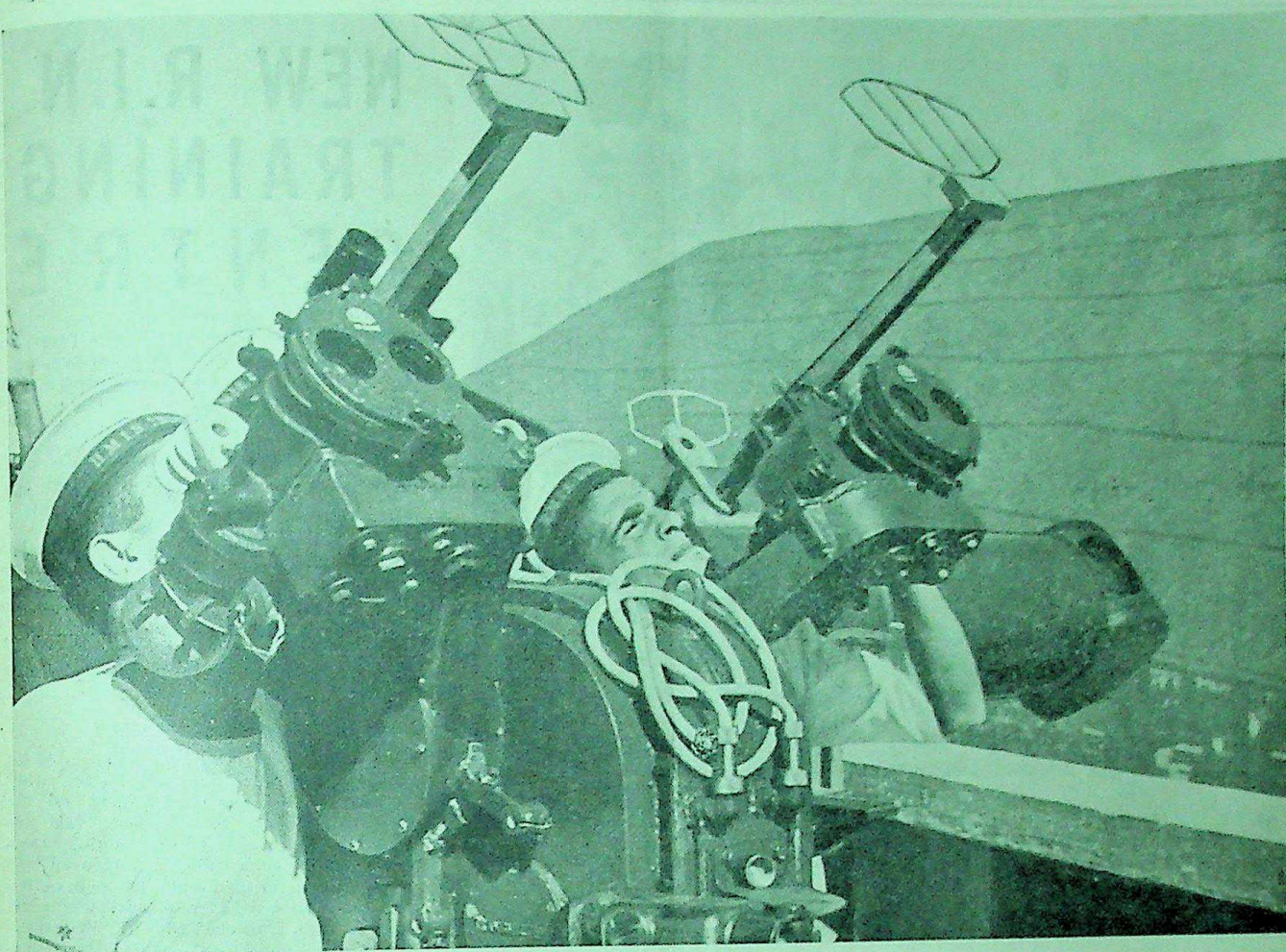
Working time lost in labour disputes in Britain is less than one hour per worker per year.

The British Post Office has a total staff of just over a quarter of a million men and women. One out of every three of that staff has joined either the Navy, Army, Air Force, Home Guard, or Civil Defence services. A thousand Post Office men have been killed on active service or in air raids, and so far nearly 200 men and women of the postal services have been decorated for gallantry, either in the forces or at home during raids.

After one of London's heaviest blitzes, 20,000 phone lines were out of action; within three days the service was back to normal.

General Brett's flight from Brisbane to Washington in 47 hours has demonstrated the practicability of the trans-Pacific ferry service for bombers. Assuming that General Brett's Flying Fortress made the Sea crossing in three hops: Brisbane-Samoa (2,160 miles), Samoa-Honolulu (2,250 miles) and Honolulu-San Francisco (2,090 miles), the average speed for the flight was approximately 180 m.p.h., not taking into account the time devoted to refuelling.





ANTI-AIRCRAFT EXERCISES FORM PART OF THE TRAINING OF ROYAL INDIAN NAVY PERSONNEL

## R. I. N.'S NEW TORPEDO SCHOOL

The foundation-stone of the Royal Indian Navy's new Torpedo School was laid by His Highness the Maharaja Jam Saheb of Nawanagar on Saturday, August 15. The ceremony marks a further stage in important developments connected with the naval defence of India.

In this war, as it did in 1914-18, the torpedo has played an effective and often spectacular role. For success in attack well-trained men must be behind the loaded tube. To the new Torpedo School therefore is assigned important work. Officers and men of the Torpedo Branch are at the present time carrying on with keenness the traditions of their specialised section of the Naval Service. When the new School is open, they will have a building, an environment and facilities admirably suited to the training of a much larger body of personnel and to the extension of the activities on which they are engaged.

The new School will be up-to-date in every respect, with the most recently

designed equipment and buildings laid out in accordance with modern ideas on the planning of training establishments. The quarterdeck is that part of His Majesty's Indian ships most closely associated with naval tradition: at the new School the focal point will also be the quarterdeck, with the White Ensign flying over it; here divisions and ceremonial parades will be held. Arranged around it will be rooms for lectures and practical instruction, workshops, canteens, the ratings' barracks, the sick bay, victualling and clothing stores, and the officers' quarters. In some of the rooms used for instruction the layout of the electrical machinery will be as it is in a ship.

The comprehensive instruction that will be given to officers and men of the Royal Indian Navy, and also to Royal Navy personnel, will include the training, firing and recovery of torpedoes at sea, practice attacks on targets, and maintenance and repairs. Further, the School will teach

the handling of depth charges and mines and the operating and maintenance of the electrical equipment on which modern warships so largely depend. Besides training recruits to the Torpedo Branch, it will also provide courses for trained men so that they may acquire the proficiency that leads to advancement in rate and more pay.

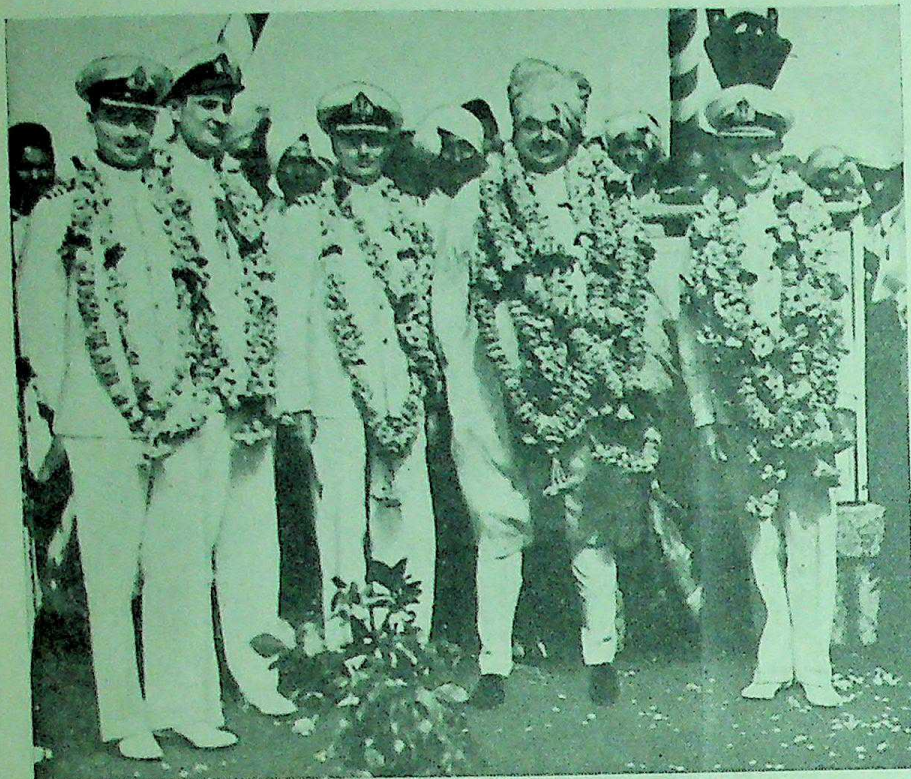
### Commissioned Gunners

The highest rate in the Branch is that of the Torpedo Gunner's Mate, who wears a badge displaying crossed torpedoes with a crown above and a star below. The lower rates are those of Leading Torpedoman and Seaman Torpedoman. Among the Electrical Artificers, who constitute another section of the Branch, the highest rate is that of Chief Electrical Artificer. Men in the highest rates become on further promotion Commissioned Gunners (T) and Warrant Electricians.

A notable point about the training is that it fits a man for a good job when he returns to civil life. He will then be given



## DEFENCE



H. H. the Maharaja Jam Saheb of Nawanagar (second from right) photographed with Vice-Admiral Sir Herbert Fitzherbert (right) and others after His Highness had laid the foundation-stone of the R.I.N.'s new Torpedo School on August 15, 1942

a trade certificate specifying the amount of instruction he has received at the School and the electrical work on which he has been engaged in ships and ashore.

#### SIR H. FITZHERBERT'S SPEECH

In his speech at the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the Royal Indian Navy's new Torpedo School on Saturday, August 15, Vice-Admiral Sir Herbert Fitzherbert, Flag Officer Commanding, the Royal Indian Navy, said :—

"Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It has been not only a great pleasure but a matter of great pride to me to have been able to be here today to witness the laying of the foundation-stone of the Royal Indian Navy's new Torpedo School by His Highness the Jam Saheb.

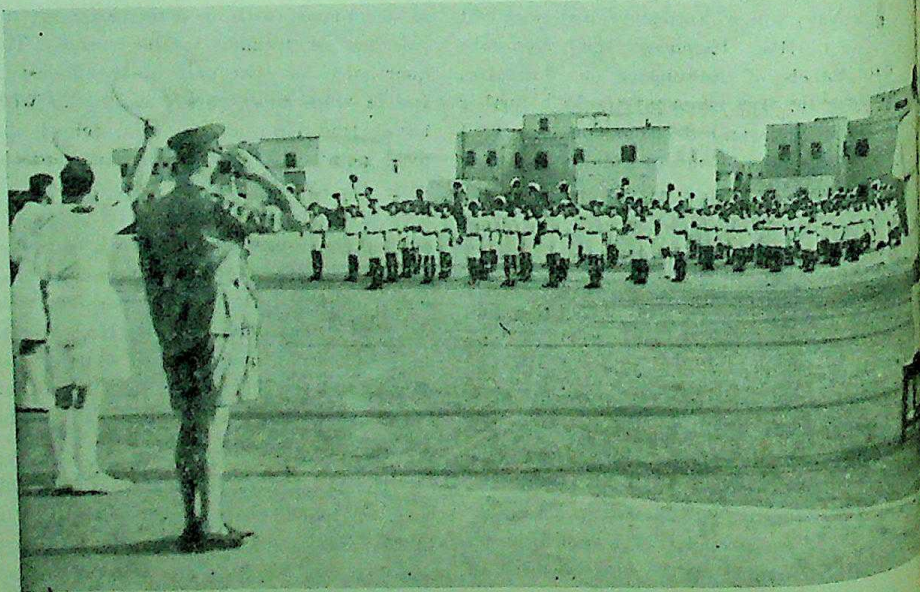
It is only through the kindness and generosity of His Highness that it has been possible to acquire the land on which the new School will be built, and not only I but every officer and man in the Royal Indian Navy is deeply grateful to His Highness.

You will be aware of the rapid progress and expansion that has been made by the Royal Indian Navy in recent years. This progress and expansion still continues, and the ceremony today is typical of the Royal Indian Navy's continued effort to press on until full navyhood is achieved.

We may all consider ourselves fortunate to be here today to help write a new page in the history of the Royal Indian Navy, for that is what has been done. It is a page that will last for all time because it ushers in a new and important branch of the Service, a branch the possession of which places the Royal Indian Navy on a level with the Royal Navy and all the

other portions of the Imperial Navy for the first time.

I feel quite sure that a school which starts under such a happy augury as the new Torpedo School has started with such a distinguished and popular figure to lay its foundation-stone will be assured of success from the very start. The school will have to reach a very high standard of efficiency to keep level with the other schools of the Royal Indian Navy, but under the efficient guidance of Commander Ward I have no doubts that the greatest success will be achieved."



H. R. H. the Duke of Gloucester, who recently toured India, visited H.M.I.S. Bahadur, R. I. N.'s Senior Boys' Training Establishment at Karachi

## NEW R.I.N. TRAINING CENTRE

The expansion of India's Navy is proceeding at such a pace that a further large addition to its training establishments has now become necessary to facilitate the manning of new ships joining the fleet.

Under a scheme soon to come into operation a new centre will take over the initial instruction of recruits to the Seamen and Stoker branches. As a result of this project and the addition of facilities at other establishments the number of Seamen under training will be trebled, while the intake of entrants to the Stoker branch will be increased fourfold. In due course, therefore, a correspondingly larger body of trained personnel will be available to man the Royal Indian Navy's new ships.

#### Duties Of Seamen And Stokers

Seamen's duties are the steering of the ship and the handling of boats, while Stokers provide the complement for the engine and boiler rooms. Both take the initial eleven weeks' course, during which their general education is improved and they learn the elements of their new profession and receive field training without arms. Stokers then proceed to the Mechanical Training Establishment, while their shipmates study seamanship and later undergo a course in gun drill and the use of automatic weapons.

The new centre at which the initial eleven weeks' course is to be given is situated in a healthy locality. Bungalows have been secured to provide accommodation for the men, who will be organised in equal numbers in four ships' companies.

[CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]



# AUSTRALIA WELCOMES R. I. N. MEN

Sailors of India's Navy who went to Australia to man H.M.I.S. *Punjab* have returned to this country with kindly memories of the Commonwealth. Australian friends showed themselves the best of hosts, and the ship's post-bag is witness to the way in which the acquaintanceship is maintained.

H.M.I.S. *Punjab* was built and commissioned in Australia, the launching ceremony being performed by Her Excellency Lady Gowrie, the wife of the Governor-General.

## Wireless Set Presented

Soon after their arrival in Australia the ship's company were invited by the Australian Naval Ex-Services Association to a smoking concert, at which the Commodore commanding the port made a speech welcoming them. Engine Room Artificer Chopra of Kashmir replied on behalf of the Royal Indian Navy. While living in barracks the Navy's men were presented with a wireless set from a civic fund, and to this the Naval War Auxiliary, an organisation conducted by the wives of Australian naval officers and men, added a gramophone, records, books and games. The Commodore paid an official visit to the barracks and complimented the ship's company on their smartness.

Later, the employees of the firm building the *Punjab* raised over £30 among themselves and spent it on an excursion for their Indian friends. With money from the same civic fund another wireless set was presented to the ship when she was commissioned.

## Picnic Parties

Leading Stoker Sher Alam of Campbellpur District, the Punjab, said in an interview that the ship's company had a really good time in every part of the Commonwealth which they visited. At week-ends, for instance, parties of men were invited to stay in private houses outside the large towns, and were regarded as members of the family. They were met at the railway station, driven to the residence in which they were to stay, and during the rest of the week-end were taken on visits to beauty spots in some of the most picturesque parts of Australia, where they had picnic parties, with opportunities for bathing. When they returned to the house at night neighbours came in, and there was much conversation about India.

At the Anzac Hut in one city the Navy's men experienced in full Australia's traditional hospitality, said Chief Mechanician Mohammed Ismail, of Ratnagiri district, Bombay Presidency.

## NEW R.I.N. TRAINING CENTRE

[CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

Each week a group of men in each ship's company will complete the course and will proceed to other establishments for the next stage of the training.

As the bungalows are close to the sea, men will have ample opportunities of



ONE OF THE GIANT COASTAL GUNS GUARDING INDIA'S SHORES

learning to swim, and an extensive tract of open land nearby will be used for recreation and games. Amid such healthy and pleasant surroundings recruits from many parts of India will soon be receiving their initiation into the Navy's work.



His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester with Vice Admiral Sir Herbert Fitzherbert, Flag Officer Commanding, the Royal Indian Navy, at Karachi





HIS MAJESTY THE KING ON THE QUARTER-DECK OF H.M.S. "KING GEORGE V"

## NAVAL INSTRUCTION FOR THE ARMY

In addition to its work of protecting India and her vital sea communications the Royal Indian Navy provides a number of facilities ashore and afloat for other Navies and branches of the Defence Services.

An interesting example is the training given to Army Officers in Navigation. The extension of warfare to desert regions with few landmarks makes it necessary for mechanised troops to possess skill in steering a course by compass as well as by the normal method of using maps.

In one of the Royal Indian Navy's training establishments classes of Army Officers have for some time been instructed in the science of Navigation, which has enabled generations of seamen to fix their position when far from land. The officers

have learnt to plot courses, true and compass, use a sextant, identify constellations, and ascertain where they are in the desert when no landmark is in sight. Under skilled naval instruction the classes have achieved excellent results, and much keenness has been displayed by the officers in accepting the help that the Navy can offer.

### Signal School

One of the many ways in which the Royal Indian Navy assists other Navies and the Merchant Service is in the instructional facilities it affords them at H.M.I. Signal School.

The School has expanded until it has become one of the largest and most modern institutions of its kind in the British Commonwealth. Not only does it train officers and men for the Royal Indian Navy, but warships and merchant vessels

from countries overseas also send classes to it for instruction in signalling.

Various services for the personnel of visiting warships, British and Allied, are performed by the Royal Indian Navy's medical organisation. In Bombay the Principal Medical Officer, R.I.N., is responsible for all medical matters pertaining to these ships when they enter the port. He arranges admissions to hospital, appointments with specialists, dental treatment, supplies of medical stores, and a number of other facilities. To Bombay for treatment come naval patients from a wide area in the Middle East, and the Principal Medical Officer also arranges for treatment of cases in any part of India, and, if necessary, the invaliding of patients to the United Kingdom. Another phase of this work is the anti-malarial spraying of ships in port. By the use of mechanical sprayers a ship can be rid of mosquitoes in five minutes.

## USE OF SEA-GOING COUNTRY CRAFT ON THE WEST COAST

The Government of India, by a Resolution published in the Gazette, dated August 14, 1942, have instituted an inquiry into the possibilities of developing, and organising on a more efficient basis, the greater use of sea-going country craft on the West coast of India.

Dr. H. T. Sorley, C.I.E., I.C.S., Commissioner, Northern Division, Bombay, assisted by Rao Bahadur Menaklal Lalubhai, formerly Collector of Salt Revenue, Bombay, has been entrusted with this inquiry and his report is to be submitted within three months.

He will examine the nature, volume and present organisation and capacity of this traffic, as well as the possibility of increasing it and the methods by which and the agencies through which, such an increase can be effected, with a view to relieving the pressure on railways.

Such methods may, if found necessary, involve the reorganisation, rationalisation and construction of fleets, adjustment of railway or shipping rates and prohibition of carriage by rail of certain commodities between specified ports.

## RECRUITMENT FOR R. I. N.

The Royal Indian Navy is seeking recruits in a part of India to which hitherto it has not resorted on an organised scale. This area is comprised by Rajputana and the Central India States.

Up to 1928 ratings were chiefly recruited from the Ratnagiri district of Western India, where the seafaring population has long been noted for its skilful handling of ships. In later years recruitment was extended to the Punjab and the Bombay Deccan, but in consequence of the Navy's rapid expansion during the present war it now embraces the whole of India. The representation of South India in the Service has in particular grown to large proportions. Today the Navy accepts recruits from any part of India provided that they speak English or Hindustani and reach the medical and educational standards laid down.

The tour of certain parts of Rajputana and the Central India States will be made by a Naval Officer. In explaining the conditions of service in the Navy, he will give full particulars of the various branches and will point out how Naval training stands a man in good stead when he returns to civil life.

INDIAN INFORMATION, OCTOBER 1, 1942



# MADRAS HALIFAX BOMBER SQUADRON

**D**ewan Bahadur Sir S. E. Runganadhan, Adviser to the Secretary of State for India, spent a day recently with the Madras Presidency Halifax Bomber Squadron of the R.A.F. He was conducted on a tour of the whole station by the Officer Commanding the Station, who before the war had served in the Air Force in India and had often piloted the late Lord Willingdon's plane when he was Viceroy.

The Squadron was seen busily engaged upon its day-to-day duties including the important work of maintenance of planes and work entailed in the "bombing-up" of the bombers. Sir S. E. Runganadhan inspected thoroughly the Halifax bomber which is piloted by the Squadron's Commander.

On meeting the crews of the Squadron, Sir S. E. Runganadhan conveyed the following message to them from the Governor of Madras: "On behalf of the people of Madras I send best wishes to our Halifax Squadron. Good luck to you all!"

The Squadron asked that the following reply be sent: "The Commanding Officer and all members of the Madras Halifax Bomber Squadron heartily thank Your Excellency and the people of Madras for the good wishes. We greatly appreciate their splendid efforts in providing the Squadron with the Halifax bombers bearing the names of Madras which we are privileged to fly."

By a happy coincidence the Squadron's Commanding Officer, Wing Commander J. H. Marks, D.S.O., D.F.C., was awarded a Bar to his D.S.O. the day before Sir S. E. Runganadhan's visit. This officer, who is only 24 years of age, recently led his Squadron in an attack on the German naval base at Trondheim. Although well aware that heavy defence was concentrated in the target area, he dived down to 200 feet and, defying the fierce barrage, released his bombs over his objective. A month previously he took part in an attack on the same objective. This officer is a born leader who, by his splendid example of superb courage and determination to achieve success, greatly inspired other crews of his Squadron who took part in the attack.

After meeting the Squadron, Sir S. E. Runganadhan feels that the people of Madras have good reason to be proud of their Halifax Bomber Squadron and may rest assured that their efforts in supplying it with such splendid machines as Halifax bombers are well worth their while.



More and more young Indians are joining up the country's defence services. Here is a Flight-Lieutenant of the Indian Air Force

## CHINESE FORCES NOW IN INDIA

**S**tanding side by side with British and Indian troops, representatives of the gallant Chinese Army are encamped in picturesque country, writes an Indian Army Observer who has just completed a tour of North-east India.

All the men fought in Burma, and, under their 42 year-old commander, Lt.-General L. J. Sun, they are preparing, through an intensive training programme, for the day when they can once again get to grips with the Japanese.

On the tour I was driven by a Chinese sergeant, who had piloted a tank during the Burma battles, and I asked him if he had killed any Japanese.

"Twenty-six in May," he replied, with the pride of an expert ledger-keeper. "But, of course, that is only a beginning."

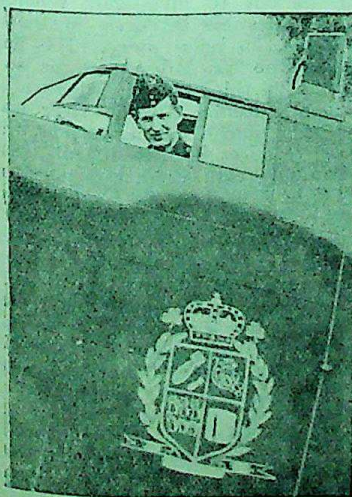
For three days at Yenangyang these tough Chinese troops fought without food

or water to help encircled British soldiers break through the enemy ring. Looking at the sergeant, and remembering the performance of his unit, I felt confident that, given an opportunity, he would not be long in reaching treble figures.

## SWIMMING POOLS FOR SOLDIERS

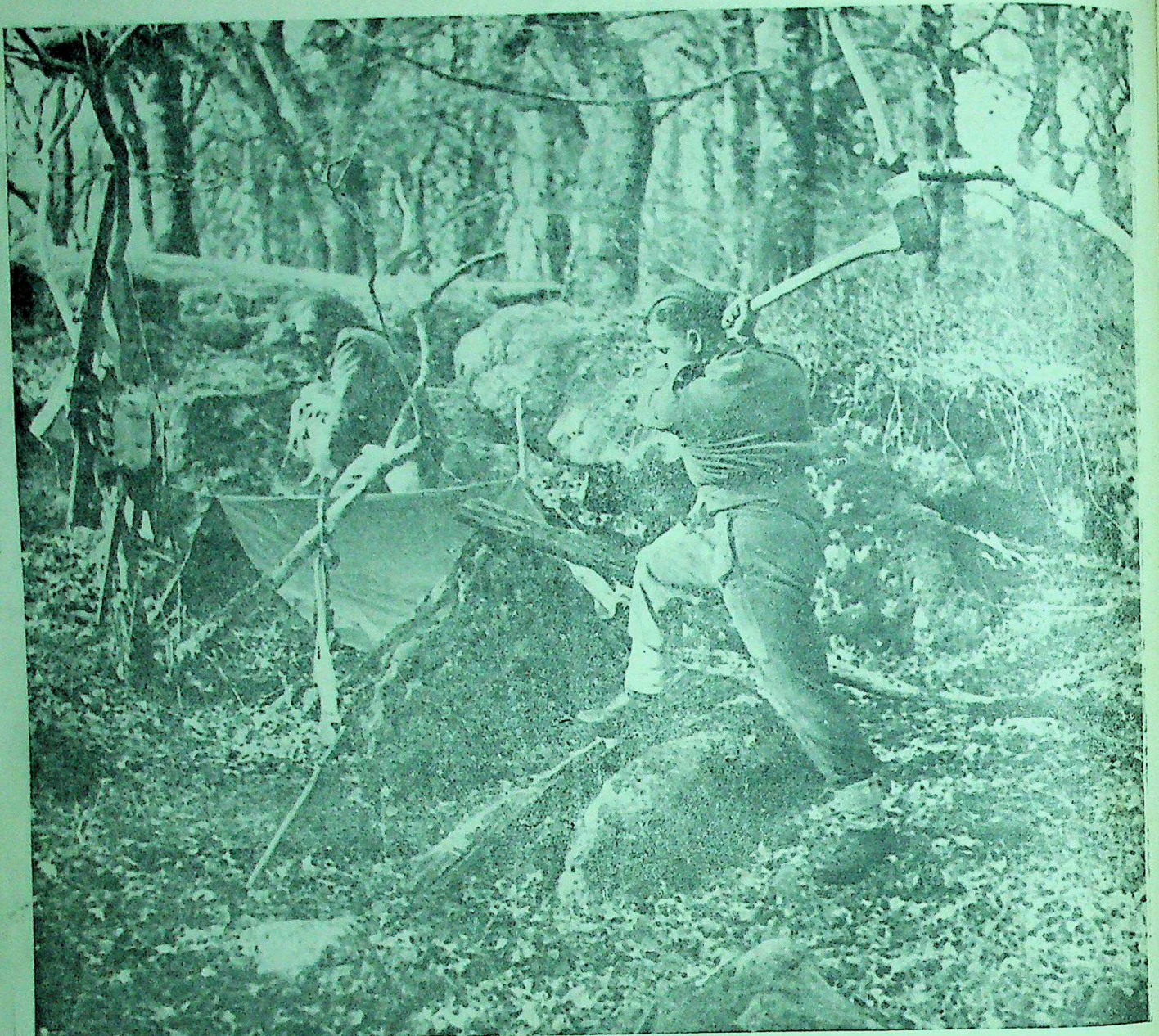
Modern warfare, particularly combined operations, requires that soldiers should be competent swimmers. Already swimming forms an important part of the training programme at many stations in India, and now War Department has sanctioned the provision of 41 further swimming pools at 28 stations in this country.

The cost of the new pools is estimated at Rs. 3,24,000 initial and Rs. 1,12,000 recurring.



HALIFAX BOMBER CREST





AFTER A TREK THROUGH WILD, REMOTE COUNTRY THE COMMANDOS PREPARE A CAMP UTILISING WHATEVER MATERIALS THEY CAN FIND

## JUNGLE "COMMANDOS" RAID JAP POSITIONS IN BURMA

Indian troops operating from the Assam-Burma border, regularly embark on daring patrols and guerilla expeditions into Japanese-occupied territory, seeking out the enemy, destroying military installations, and gleaning information invaluable in protecting India from the menace of Japanese aggression.

British, Indian and Gurkha troops are taking part in these raids. Continuously there is a "screen" of guerillas, practically living on the land, operating for long periods at a time deep in enemy-occupied territory. Through this screen go out fighting and reconnaissance patrols, sometimes consisting of as few as one officer and half a dozen or so men, equipped with automatic weapons and as much in the way of supplies as can be carried by two or three mules.

Often larger columns with more mule transport, even carrying light artillery, go out with more belligerent intentions. Always the main object is the same—to seek out the enemy, to hinder his plans, and above all to discover his intentions.

### Patrol On Imphal-Tamu Road

A typical patrol was that which set out recently from a small village on the Imphal-Tamu road. For days it struggled along the almost impassable, rough gravel tracks of the dense Naga country, plagued by mosquitoes and other insects, and always in peril of deadly ambush. At last it arrived at the crest of a ridge to the northwest of Mintha, overlooking the Kabaw valley, where it was decided to lie-up for a while as three of the men, who for days

had been fighting on against severe malaria, obviously were incapable of proceeding further for some time.

From this ridge one officer and two men set out to investigate reports concerning Japanese activities in the village of Tonhe, 25 miles away. This involved crossing the Yu River and, as so often happens in this country, where a stream suddenly becomes a wide river and the river turns into a roaring torrent, the task proved to be even more difficult than had been anticipated. First, a man had to risk his life in swimming the flooded river with a rope. Then a wire bridge capable of bearing the one mule with the detachment, had to be improvised. This completed, the detachment cautiously approached the village, only to find that the Japanese had evacuated some hours earlier, having removed every scrap of food the villagers possessed, wantonly and bloodily killing their cattle, and looting their houses.

Having seen this grim evidence of the enemy's visit, the detachment made its way back to the ridge, rejoined the remainder of the patrol and set out to march to Thaukgut, where it was understood that

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## DEFENCE

there were 100 Japanese troops, a number, incidentally, far in excess of that of the patrol. The plan was to capture prisoners who were to be brought back for interrogation and to carry out certain other important tasks.

How this part of the operation was carried out must remain secret, but it can be stated that the patrol was entirely successful and returned across the border into India nearly three weeks later without loss, having gained most valuable knowledge.

Similar patrols regularly return from similar expeditions, sometimes unfortunately not intact, but all of them with some new contribution towards the eventual defeat of the Japanese.

Already the Japanese occupiers are becoming uneasy. It is not pleasant always to be wondering when and from where the next lightning stroke may come. It is unnerving to observe the uncanny certainty with which the air forces of the United Nations—thanks to accurate, detailed information—are able to pick out the most valuable, and apparently most secret of military objectives.

Even the grim, relentless work of the guerrillas and patrols, however, has its moments of humour. A patrol recently returned to its base in Assam chuckling with delight at the discovery that, ironically, the Japanese commander in a certain town in western Burma had set up his headquarters and residence in the local jail.

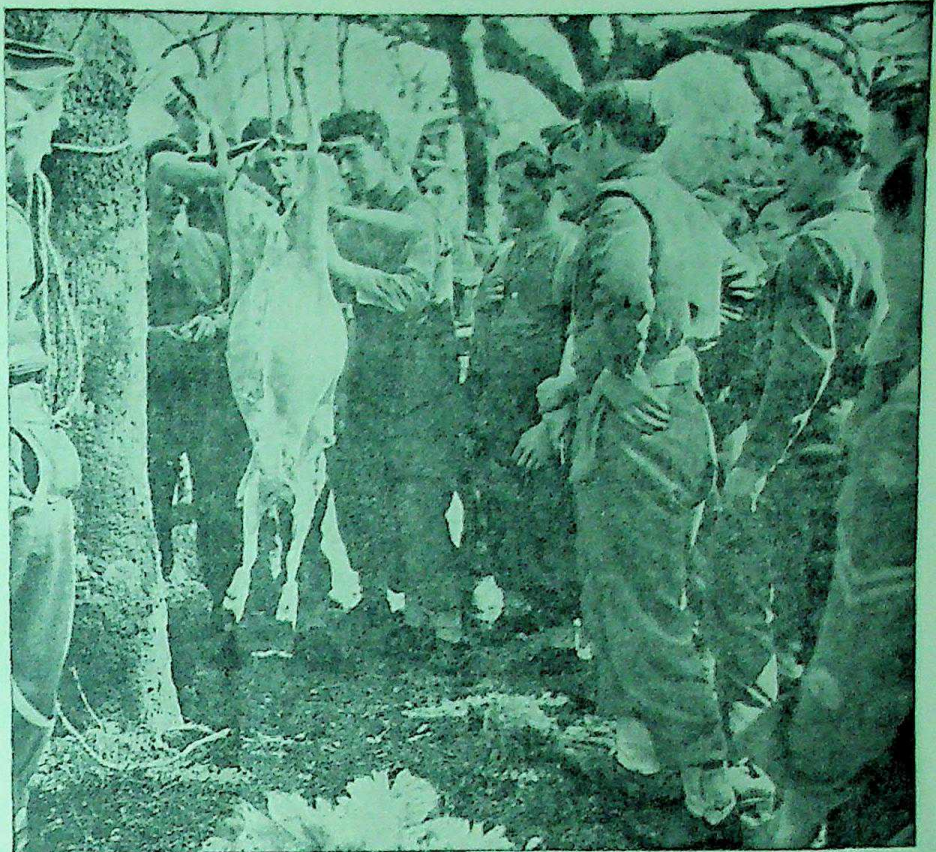
## DEFEAT OF AXIS THE SUPREME OBJECTIVE, SAYS MR. ROOSEVELT

In a message to the Prime Minister of Great Britain on the first anniversary of the signing of the Atlantic Charter (August 14) the President of the United States said:—

A year ago today the Prime Minister of Great Britain and I as representative of the two free nations set down and subscribed to a declaration of principles common to our people. We based and continue to base our hopes for a better future for the world on the realisation of these principles. This declaration is known as the Atlantic Charter.

A year ago today the nations resisting a common barbaric foe were units or small groups fighting for their existence.

Now these nations and groups of nations in all the continents of the earth have united. They have formed a great union of humanity dedicated to the realisation of that common programme of purposes and principles set forth in the Atlantic Charter through world-wide victory over their common enemies. Their faith in life, liberty, independence, and religious freedom and in the preservation of human rights and justice in their own lands as well as in other lands has been given form and substance and



The Commandos must learn to "live off the land". Here is a group of these well-trained fighters preparing a deer, they have just killed, for dinner



THE COMMANDOS MAKE A HIGH-SPEED CLIMB WITH FULL PACKS AND EQUIPMENT

power through a great gathering of peoples now known as the United Nations.

Freedom and independence are today in jeopardy the world over. If the forces of conquest are not successfully resisted and defeated there will be no freedom and no independence and no opportunity for freedom for any nation.

It is therefore to the single and supreme objective of defeating the Axis forces of

aggression that the United Nations have pledged all their resources and efforts.

When victory comes we shall stand shoulder to shoulder in seeking to nourish the great ideals for which we fight. It is a worthwhile battle. It will be so recognised through all the ages even amid the unfortunate peoples who follow false gods today.

We reaffirm our principles. They will bring us to a happier world.



## CAMP FOLLOWERS NEVER LET DOWN THE FIGHTING MEN

They never figure in awards lists, nobody regards them as heroes, few people even spare them a thought, and yet they are as vital to the Indian Army as the infantryman peering along the sights of his rifle, the gunner who sends hundreds of pounds of T.N.T. screaming on its way, and the tank crews smashing through enemy defences.

They are the camp followers, the men who perform the thousand-and-one common, everyday tasks, which keep the army fighting fit, and they have been doing a grand job in the Western Desert recently.

By their devotion to duty, often in the face of grave danger, this unromantic "army" of devoted workers is playing a big part in maintaining the morale of the troops.

### High Standard Of Health

One of the features of the desert campaign has been the remarkably high standard of health which has been maintained among our troops in the face of hardships and hard knocks.

To the humble sweepers, ensuring that no dirt remains to attract disease-carrying flies, the *dhobi*, working under difficult conditions and strictly rationed for water, and the *derzi*, using his needle to repair clothing damaged in combat, must go much of the credit for this happy state of affairs.

All these men have earned a special word of praise from desert commanders, who know that, with modern conditions of warfare, such a peaceful task as cutting hair or washing a shirt may be carried out under conditions of exceptional difficulty.

The camp followers have an unwritten law among themselves. It is never to let down the fighting men—and how loyally it is obeyed is illustrated by two stories.

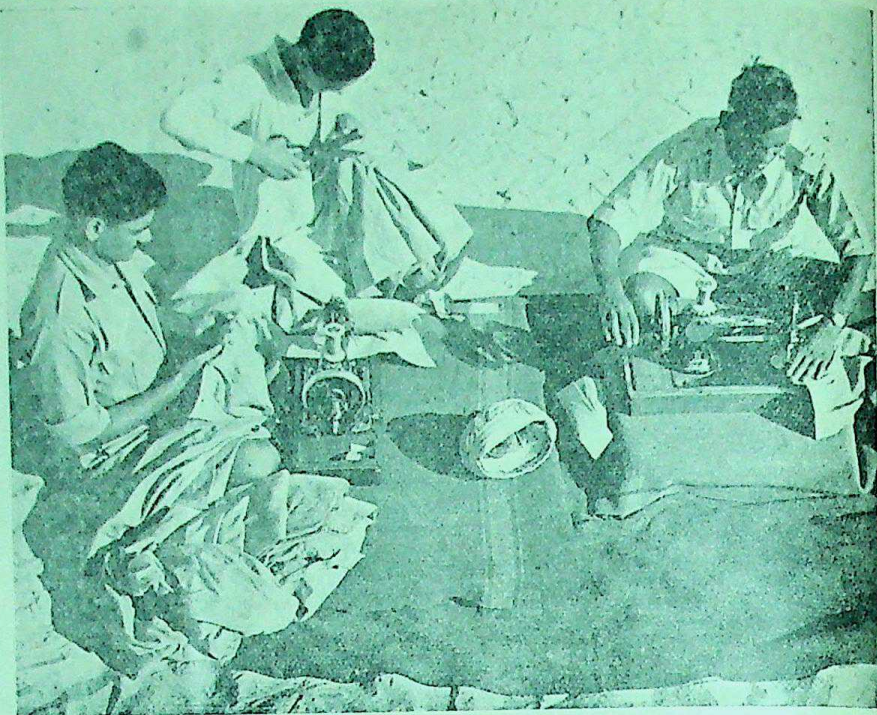
For two days during one battle a cook watched his battalion beating off attack after attack, with no chance of a respite to obtain food. The cook went quietly about the task of preparing a meal, and, just as calmly, he carried it through a barrage of fire to the practically isolated position.

Another cook went one better. He had never failed in his duty of taking up water and rations, but one day he found that the gums were hungry, too. Back he stumbled, through a curtain of machine-gun and mortar fire, to return re-inforced by several companions, all staggering under a load of shells.

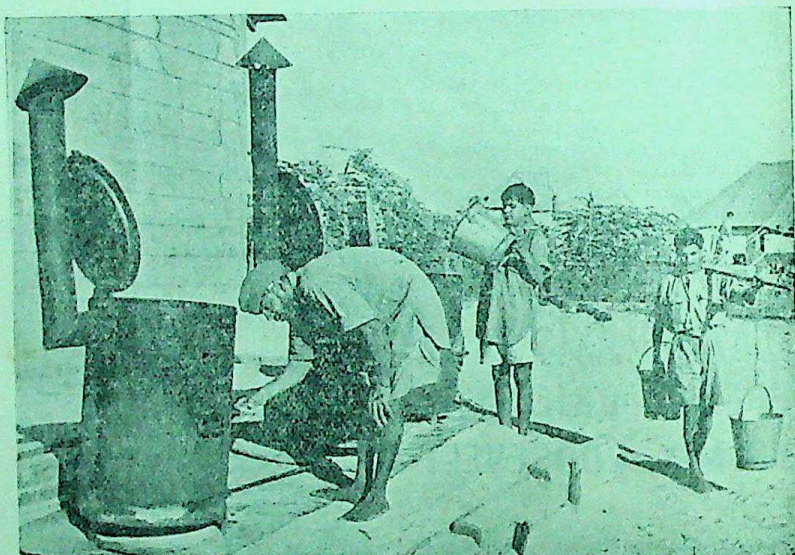
### CONDITIONS IN HONGKONG PRISONER OF WAR CAMPS

Official information has been received that International Red Cross Delegates have visited Prisoner of War Camps at Hongkong. Their report shows that conditions are satisfactory, and that housing and general welfare give no grounds for complaint.

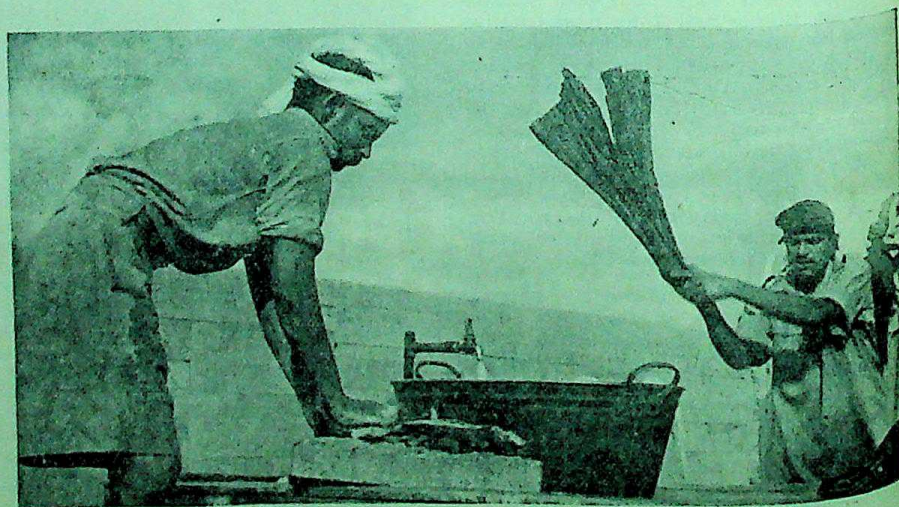
American Red Cross supplies which were lying in Shanghai have been taken over for the benefit of Prisoners of War and Civil Internees in Hongkong.



ARMY CAMP TAILORS HAVE A BUSY TIME MENDING CLOTHES AND MAKING NEW ONES



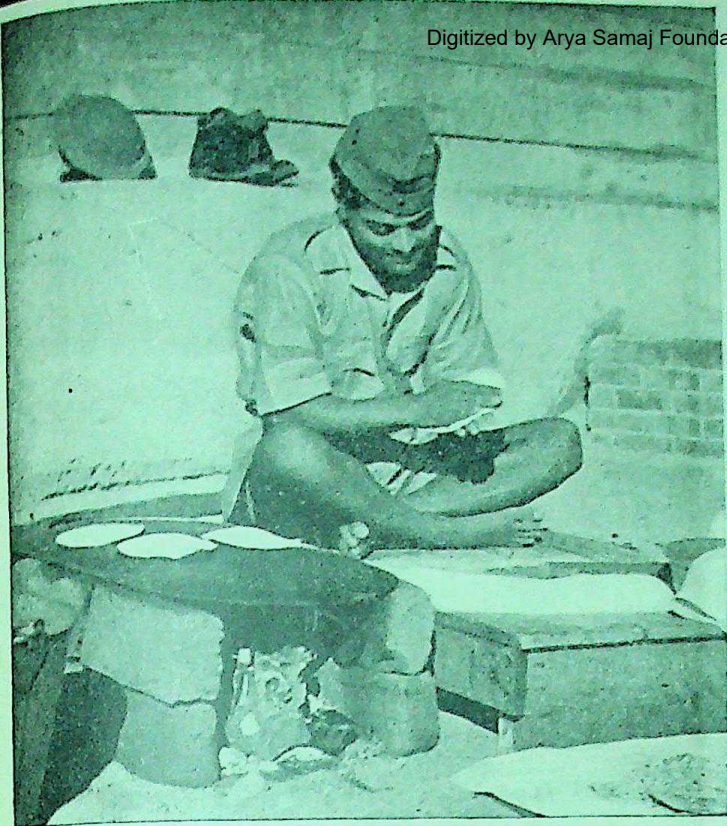
The "Bhishti" (Water-Carrier), an important person in the camp, looks after the water supply and sees that it is not contaminated



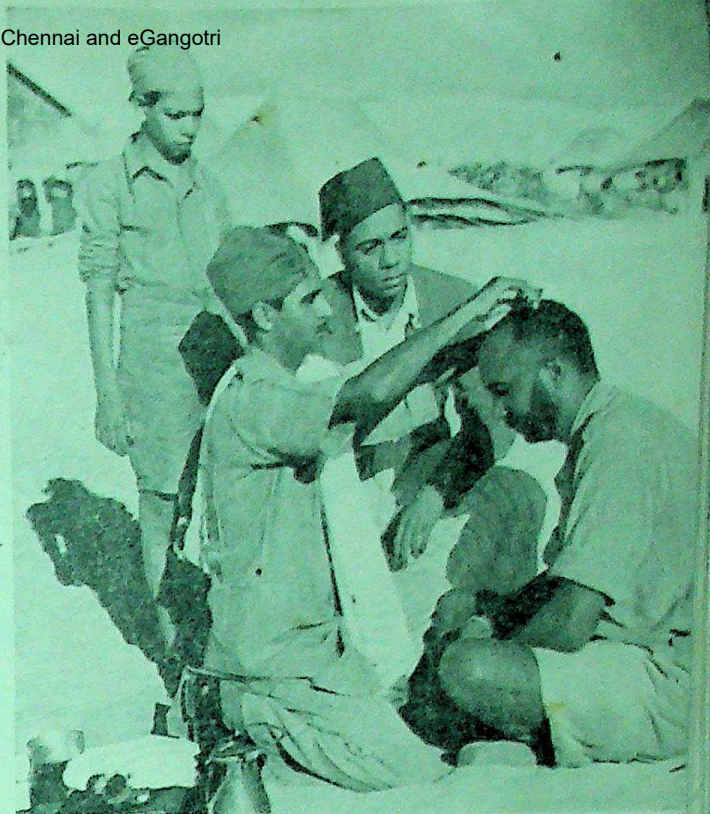
DHOBİ ACQUIRES A CONSCIENCE WITH HIS UNIFORM AND WORKS HARD AND CAREFULLY

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THE KHANSAMA ( COOK ) MAKES CHAPATTIS FOR THE TROOPS



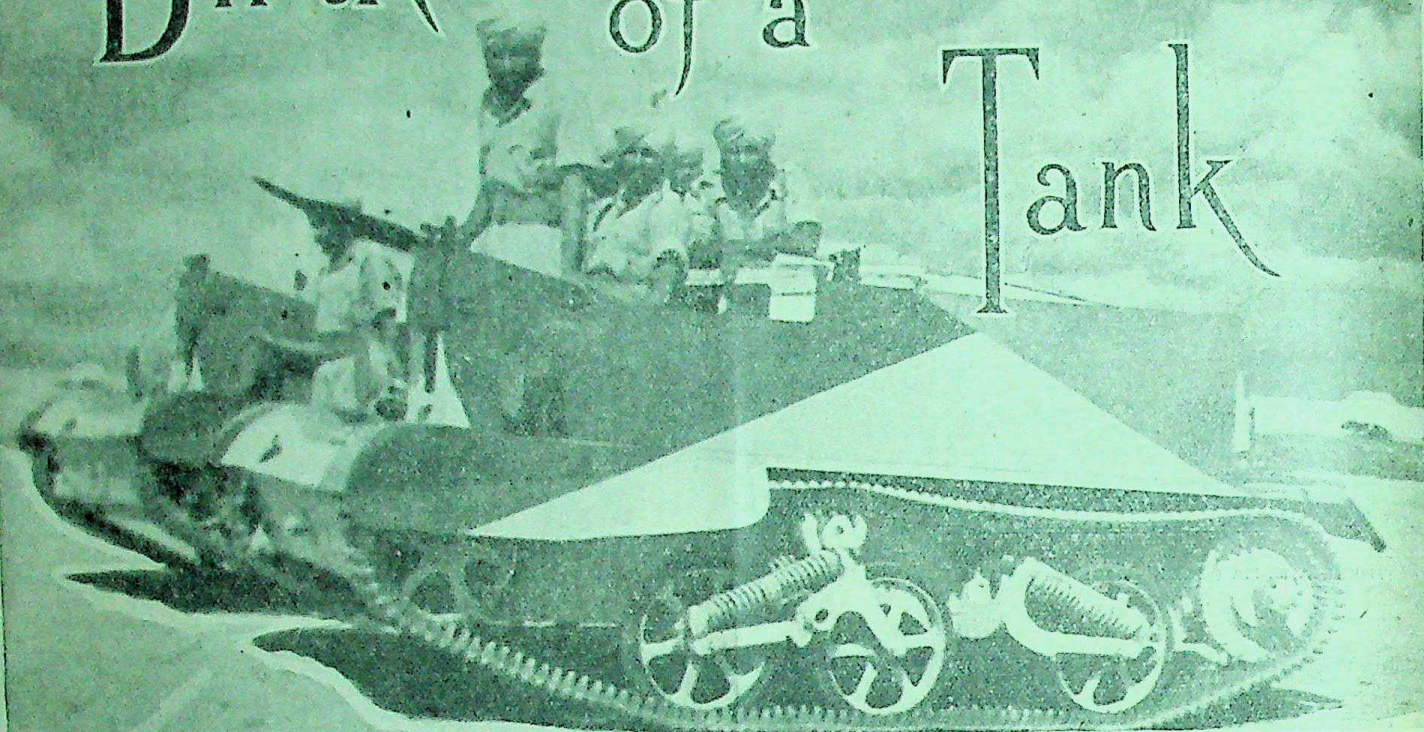
THE " NAI " ( BARBER ) GIVES THE SEPOY A TRIM AND BRUSH-U



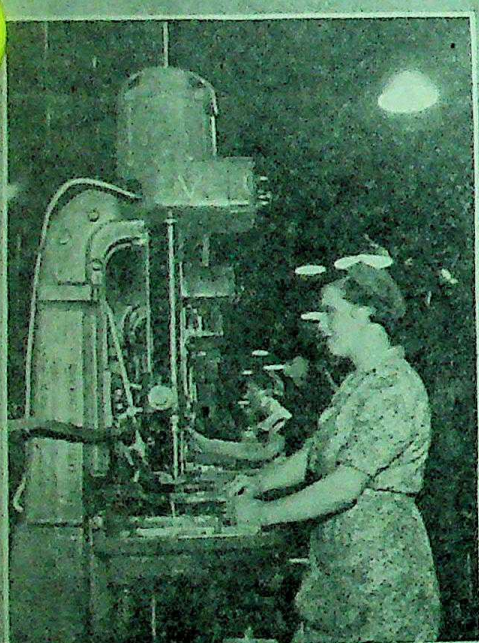
" COME TO THE KITCHEN DOOR, BOYS ..... " TROOPS RUSH UP FOR DINNER AS THE GONG GOES



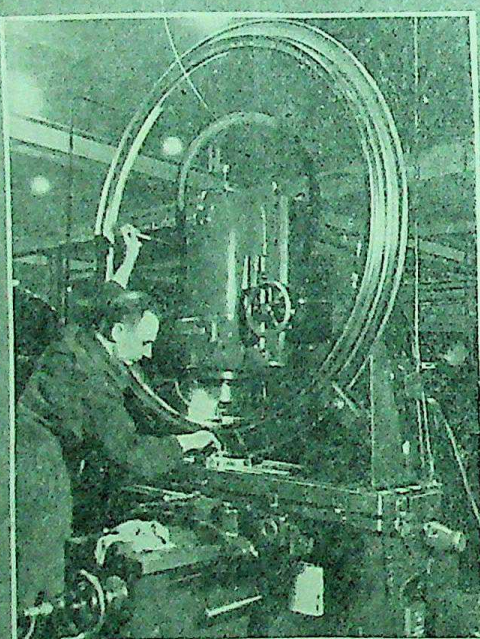
# Birth of a Tank



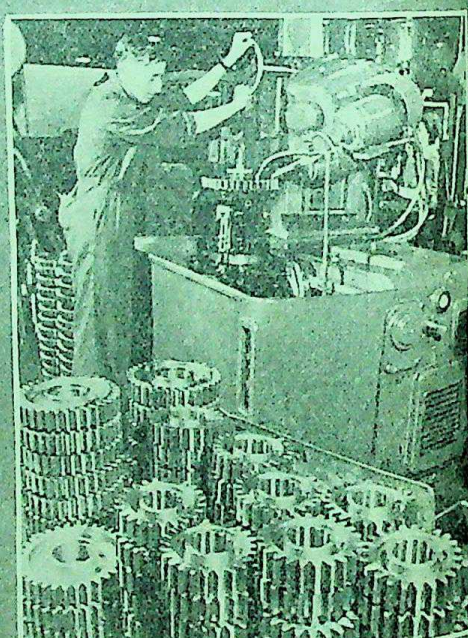
*This picture series shows the construction of a tank from thousands of small pieces until the visor is fitted into place and the tank painted*



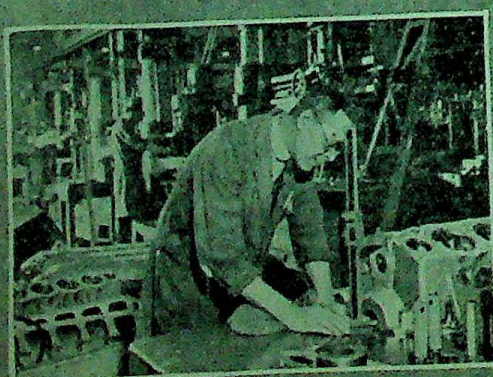
*Girls at work on some of the smaller parts*



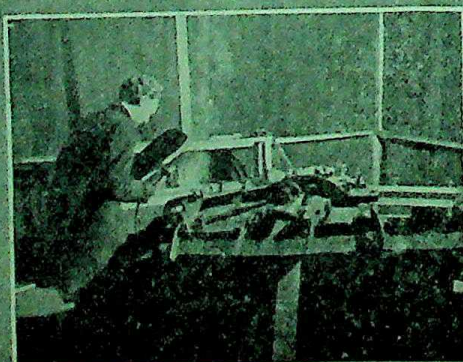
*The ring on which the turret will revolve*



*There are many gears for the gear box of a tank*



*The crankcase is being machined*



*Welder at work on pieces held together by cramps for turret top*



*Assembling crankshaft which will work at 1,500 revolutions per minute*

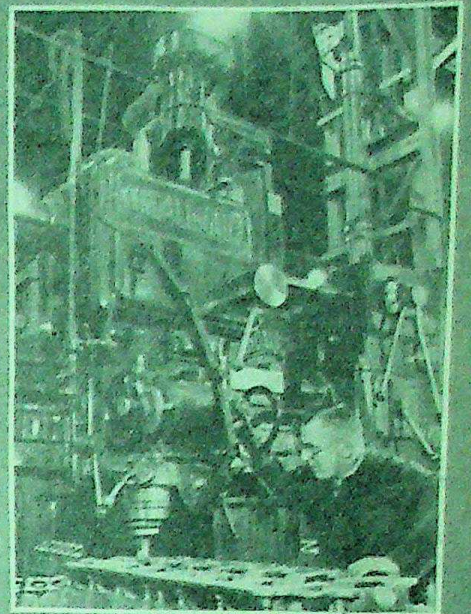




*Crankshaft put into its crankcase and pistons assembled*



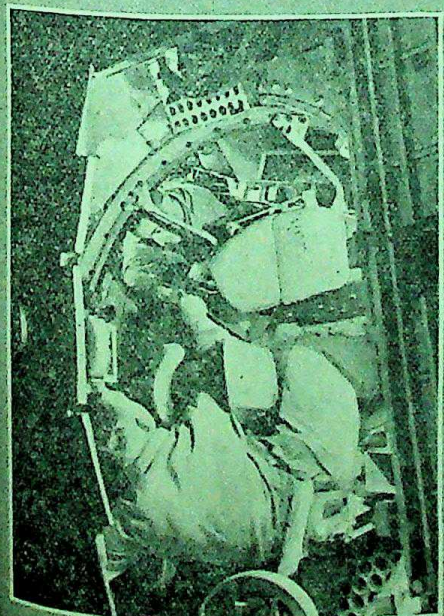
*Valve gear is put together*



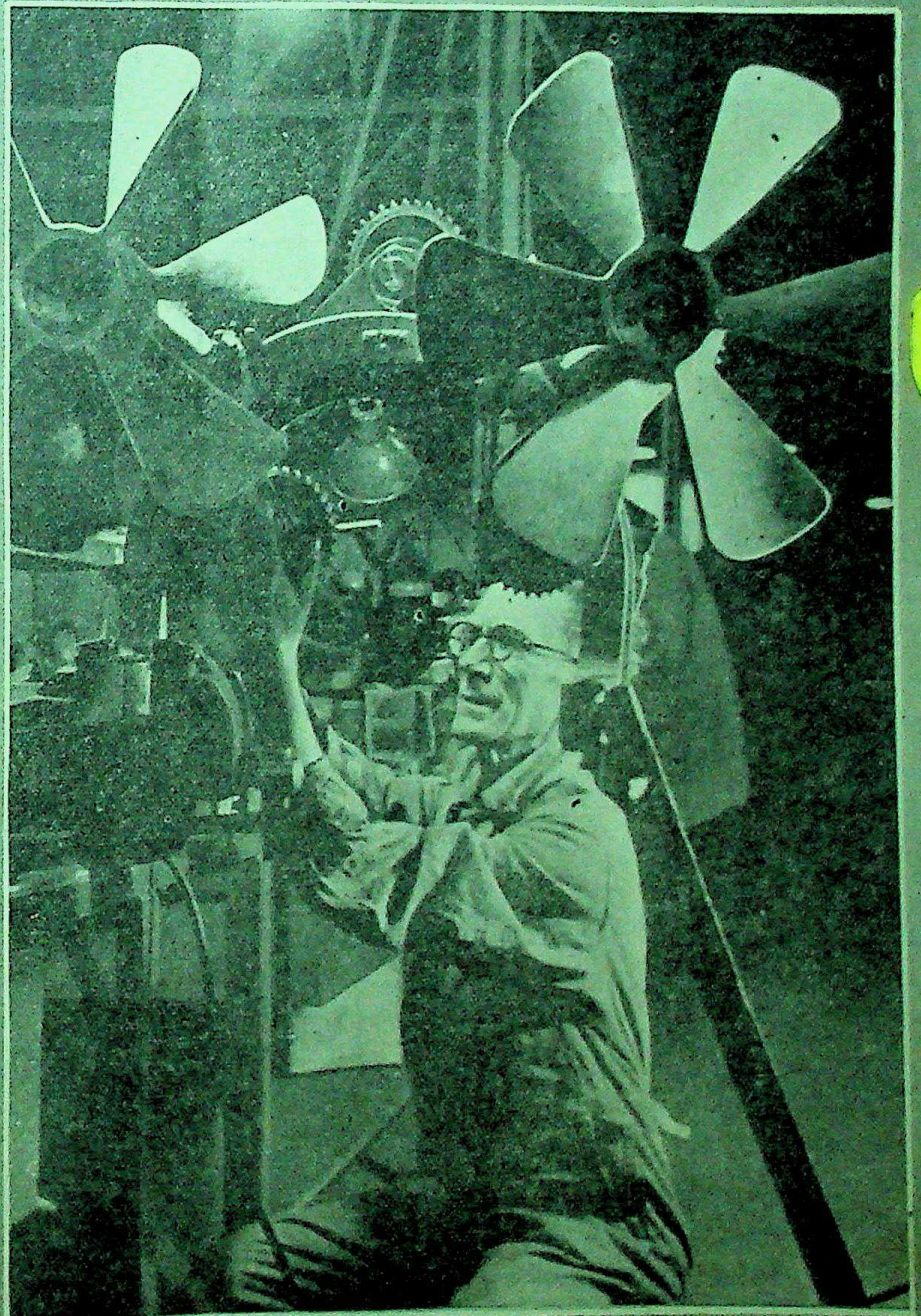
*Here crankcase is being machined*



*Final touches on the engine*

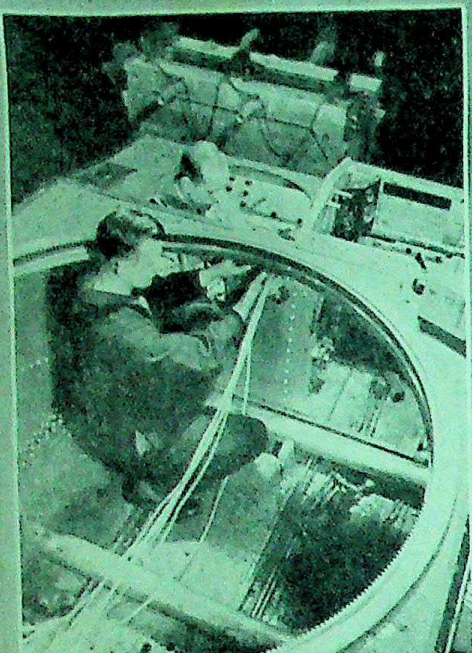


*Looking down through turret opening*

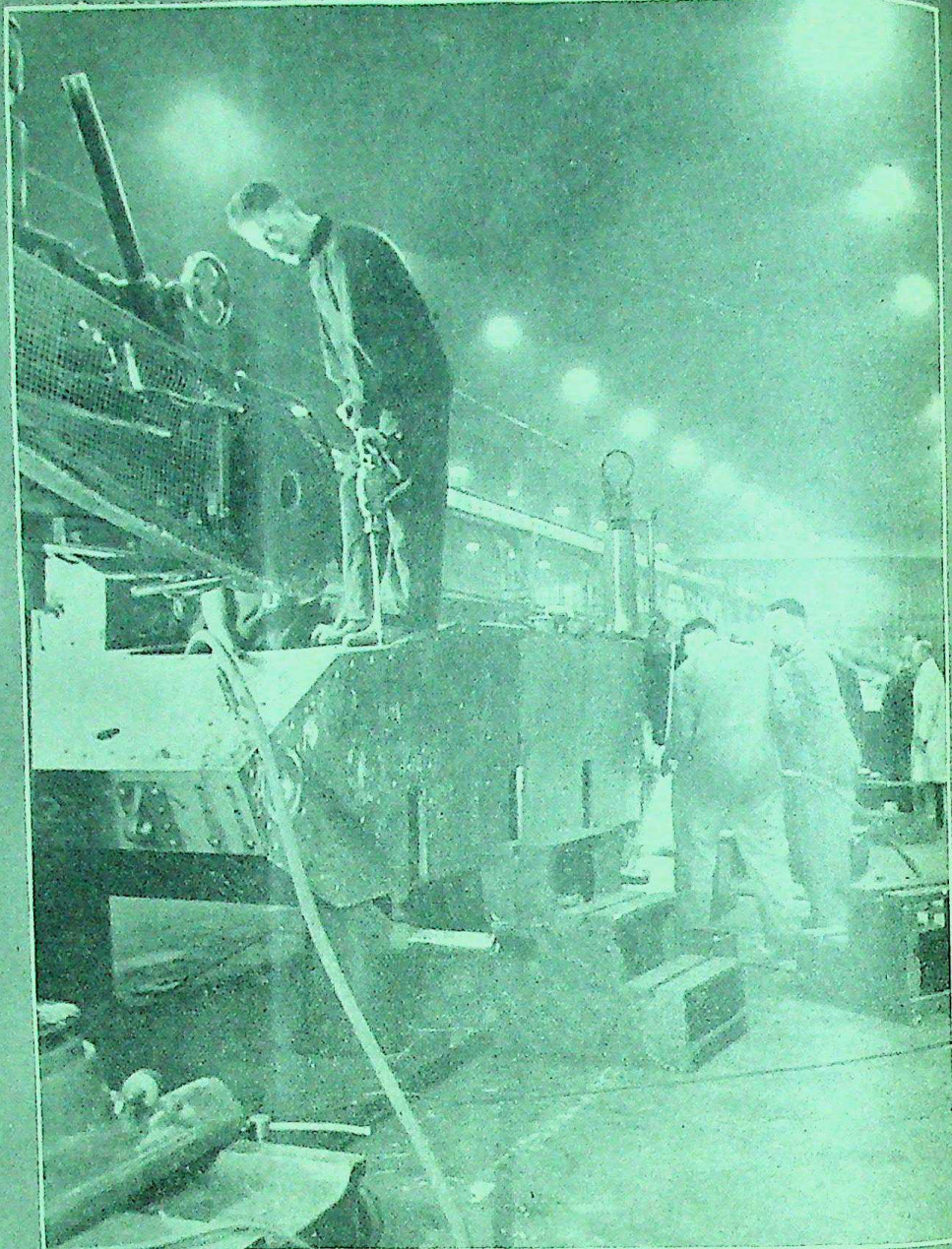


*Assembling the cooling fans for the engine*

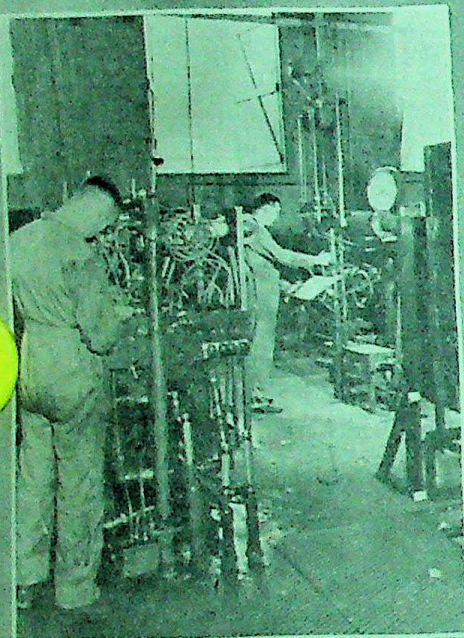




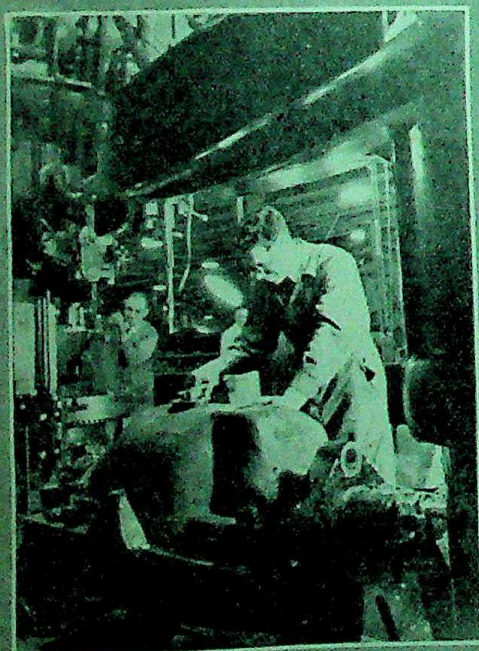
*Hundreds of feet of wiring and piping are needed for the engine inter-communication and the electric circuits*



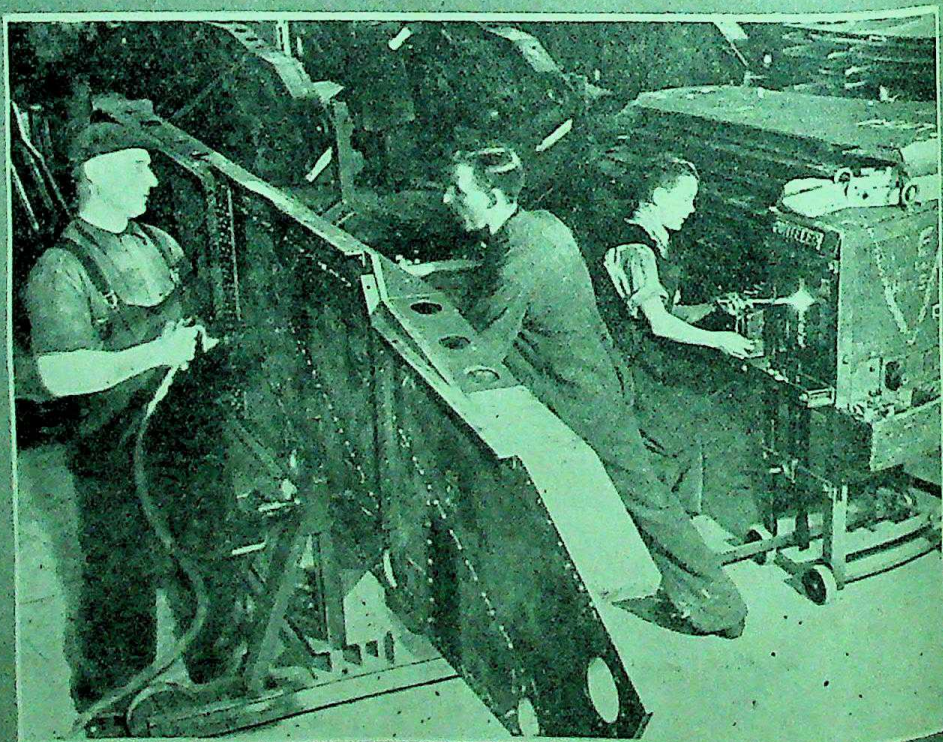
*Holes are drilled. Meanwhile the outer plate has been put on*



*On test bench each engine is run for hours before being passed for service*

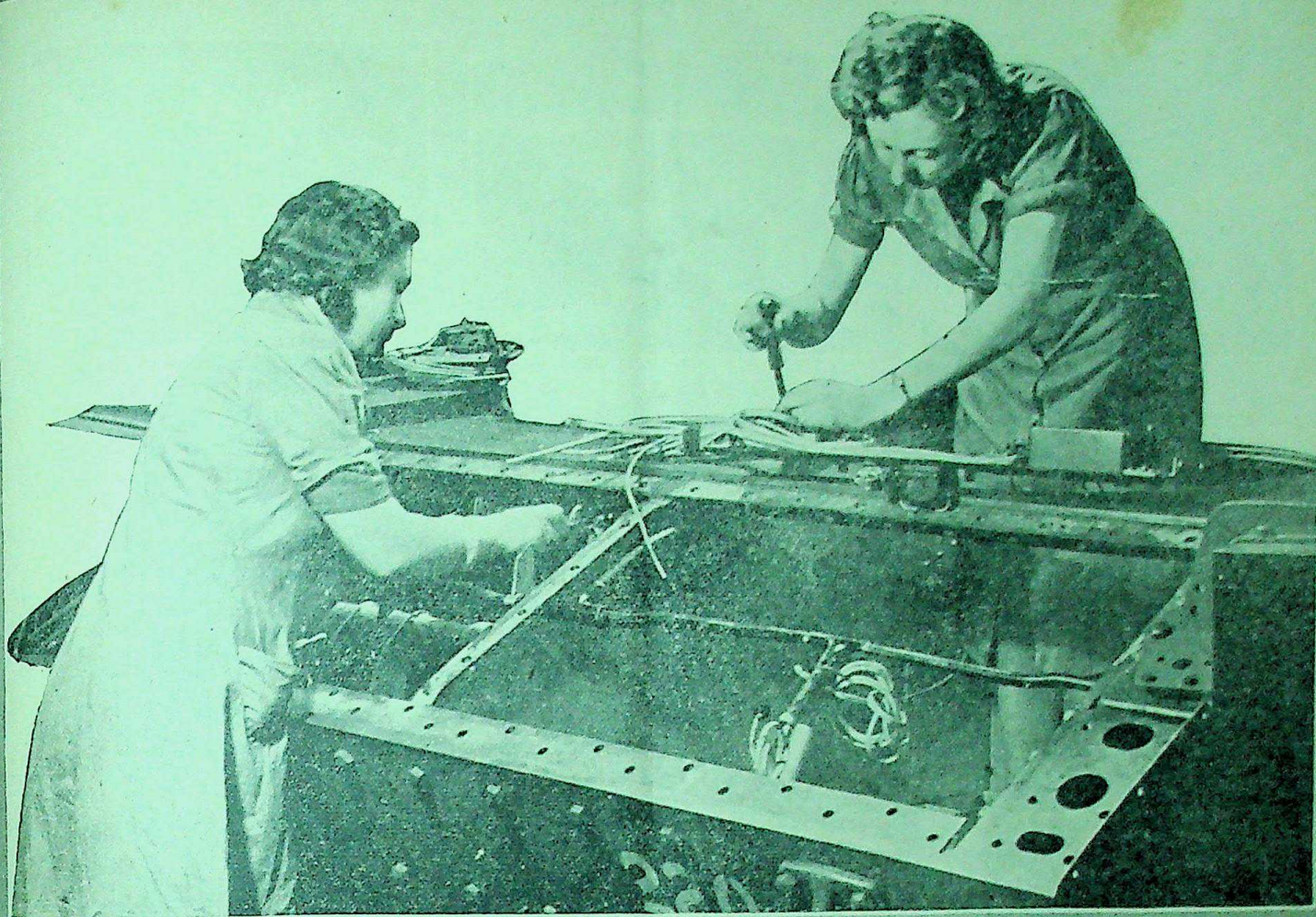


*Gun-mounting, a solid steel casting being set up for machining*

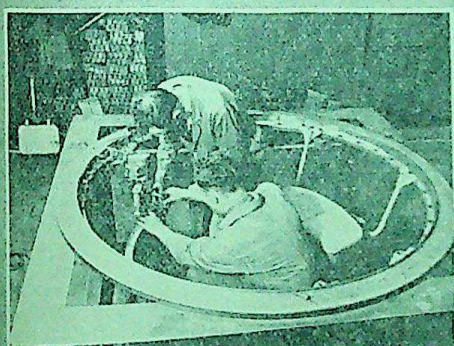


*At last the stage is reached when the hull can be built. Here the first sections of plate and girdering are being rivetted together. On the right of the picture is an electric oven for heating the rivets*





*Girls help with the later stages of wiring*



*The ring on which turret will rest  
On right is commander's seat*



*Turret then put together with rivets  
and nuts and bolts*



*Hauling the tank on to the tracks*



*The recoil mechanism is put into  
the gun-mounting*



*The cooling fans are fixed in  
position*

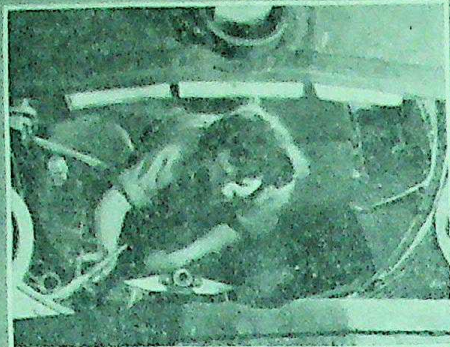


*Final adjustments are made  
to the visor*

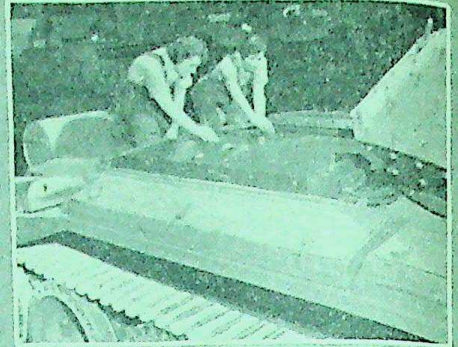




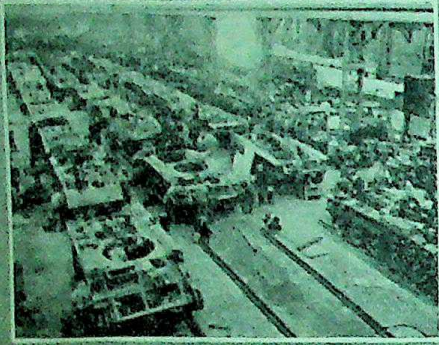
*The visor is fitted into place*



*The inside is painted*



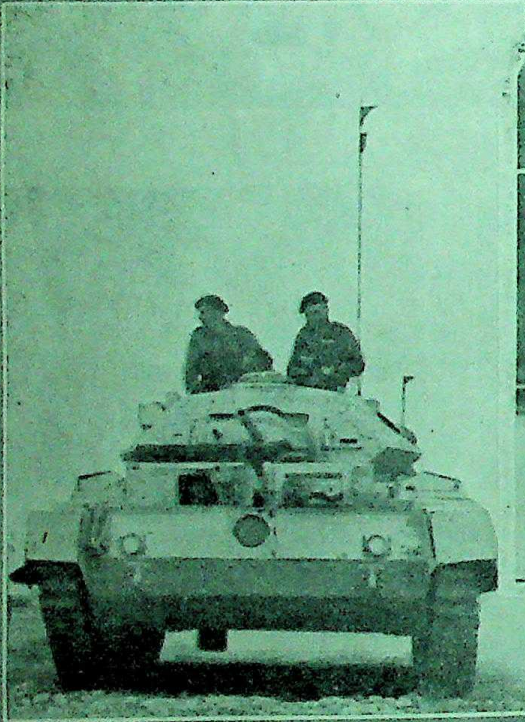
*... and the outside is painted, too*



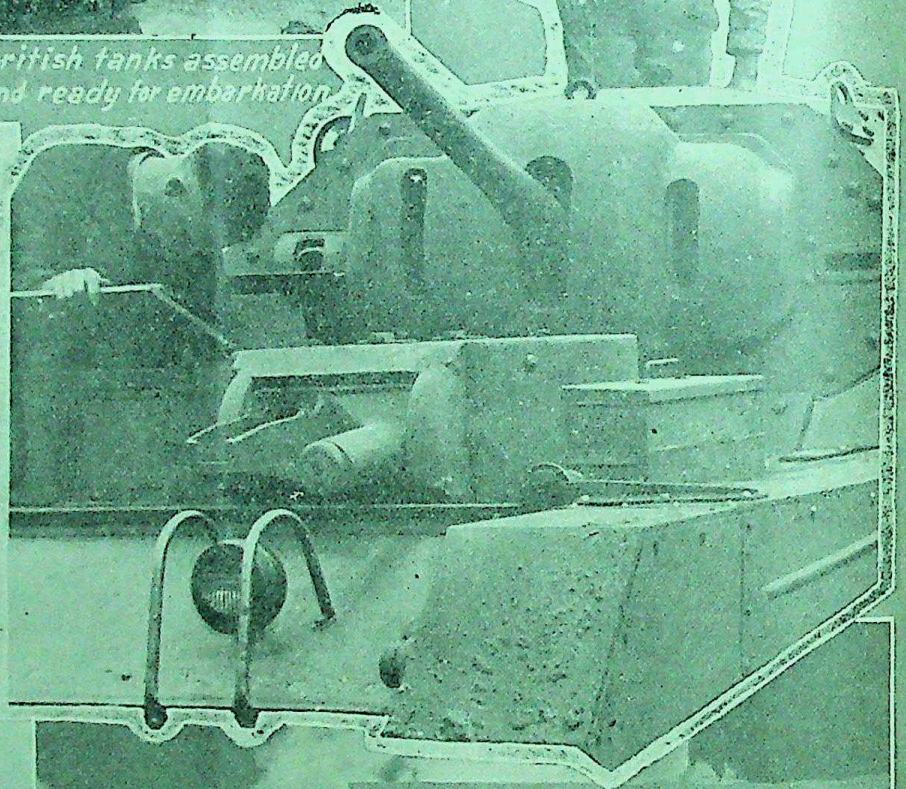
*Assembly floor with tanks in all stages of growth*



*British tanks assembled and ready for embarkation*



*Tanks moving up to a forward position in Desert battle*



*The test driver climbs in*





## CIVIL DEFENCE

### U. K. FIRE OFFICERS FOR INDIA

"I hope and trust that you will find in India, not only congenial work which will enable you to contribute the best that is in you to the common cause of the Allied Nations in resisting the aggressor Powers, but also many new friends and interesting new experiences."

Thus said the Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava, K.B.E., Member for Civil Defence, H. E. the Governor-General's Executive Council, in a message which was read at a luncheon, arranged in Bombay by the Civil Defence Department, Government of India, to welcome 59 Sub-officers of Britain's National Fire Service who are to assist in building up a war-time fire-fighting organisation in India.

#### The Message

In the unavoidable absence of the Hon'ble Sir J. P. Srivastava, his message was read by Mr. C. H. Bristow, Adviser to the Governor of Bombay. The message stated:—

"As the Member in charge of the Civil Defence Department it gives me the greatest pleasure to welcome, on behalf of the Government of India, you Fire Officers who, having had great experience of fire-fighting in air raid conditions in England, have volunteered to come to India to strengthen our fire services and help us should our cities, too, be set on fire by the enemy.

"I am extremely sorry that other duties prevent me from being present in Bombay to welcome you personally.

"I hope you have had a pleasant voyage: I hope you have enjoyed your luncheon and I hope and trust that you will find in India, not only congenial work which will enable you to contribute the best that is in you to the common cause of the Allied Nations in resisting the aggressor Powers, but also many new friends and interesting new experiences.

"I am confident that you will, if need arises, display those qualities of courage, discipline and fortitude which have made the name of the English Fire Services famous for all time.

"I wish you the very best of luck."

Mr. Bristow also welcomed, on behalf of the Bombay Government, this first contingent of Sub-officers who responded to an invitation of the Government of India, extended through the British Government, for men who had actual experience of blitz conditions.

Bombay, Mr. Bristow added, took its Civil Defence very seriously and had done all it could, but what had always been needed was the advice of experts who had actual air raid experience.

Mr. C. M. Kerr, Fire Adviser to the Government of India, said that when the call went out that India required assistance in building up her war-time fire service organisation, these officers volunteered without hesitation to come out and do their bit in what might be another theatre of war. That had made fire service history.

These officers, drawn from London, Manchester, Bolton, Birmingham, Blackpool and other British towns, were hardened and experienced in the fighting of fires caused by air raids. The lessons so grimly learnt were now being brought to India.

Their duties in the various Provinces and the State to which they had been allocated might vary according to the wishes of the local authorities. Some might act in an advisory capacity, others take over executive responsibility and yet others deal with India's most vital fire-fighting problem today, namely, the training of personnel.

Mr. Kerr concluded: "When the history of the war comes to be written, I have no doubt that a chapter will be devoted to the officers of the National Fire Service."

#### Cause Of Humanity

Mr. R. P. Masani, Provincial Leader of the National War Front, welcoming the party on behalf of the citizens of Bombay and the National War Front, said that the contingent would be serving not only India's cause and the Allied cause, but the cause of humanity.

Mr. McKay Cameron replied on behalf of the contingent.

Following were the guests at the luncheon:—

Bombay Government: Mr. C. H. Bristow, Mr. J. A. Madan and Mr. H. F.

Knight, Advisers to the Governor: Mr. G. F. S. Collins, Chief Secretary, Mr. D. Symington, Joint Secretary, Home Department (A.R.P.), Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Campbell and Major Webber.

Civil Defence Department, Government of India: Lt.-Col. C. J. Toyne, Mr. C. M. Kerr and Mr. S. W. Reeve.

Bombay Municipality: Mr. M. D. Bhat, Mr. N. V. Modak, Mr. Nadirahah, Mr. N. Coombes, Chief Officer, Bombay Fire Brigade, the Second and Third Officers, Bombay Fire Brigade, and five representatives of the Auxiliary Fire Service.

National Defence Council: Sir Cowasji Jehangir.

National War Front: Mr. R. P. Masani and Mr. H. V. R. Iengar.

Members of the Joint Civil Defence Committee: Mr. M. R. A. Baig, Sheriff of Bombay, Major-General R. H. Candy, Surgeon-General, Mr. K. L. Panjabi, Director of Civil Supplies, Dr. J. Alban D'Souza, Mr. N. M. Joshi, Mr. D. V. Pradhan, Mr. A. P. Sabawala, and Mr. Neville N. Wadia.

Mr. A. S. Chadwick, Chairman of the Fire Salvage Association, Mr. J. W. T. Leith, Secretary of the Fire Salvage Association, Dr. J. A. Collaco, ex-Mayor of Bombay, and representatives of the Press were also present.

The 59 Sub-officers left by train the same day to take up their duties in Madras, Calcutta, Delhi, Nagpur, Shillong, and Hyderabad (Deccan).

## NEW CIVIL DEFENCE SCHOOLS

### In Hyderabad

The Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad and Berar have generously placed at the disposal of the Government of India the buildings of the Hyderabad Police Officers' Training School (which is to be closed in September) at Amberpet, Hyderabad (Deccan):

The offer has been gratefully accepted and it has been decided to open a second Civil Defence Instructors' School (the first is in Calcutta) in these buildings in October.

Mr. L. G. Mirchandani and Major S. McCullagh, who were Deputy Director and Supernumerary Instructor at the Civil Defence Instructors' School, Calcutta, have been appointed Commandant and Deputy Commandant, respectively, of the new school. Major McCullagh, who recently arrived from the United Kingdom, was Deputy Controller and A.R.P. Officer, Bedfordshire, throughout the Blitz period of 1940-41.

Lt.-Col. H. I. Bulkeley, R.E. (retd.), lately A.R.P. Inspector of Factories to the Ministry of Supply, United Kingdom, has been appointed Commandant of the Civil Defence Industrial School, Calcutta.

Mr. E. J. Little, Supernumerary Instructor, Civil Defence Instructors' School, Calcutta, has been appointed Deputy Com-

mandant of the Instructors' School, vice Mr. Mirchandani.



### In Bombay

His Highness the Maharao of Cutch has generously placed at the disposal of the Government of India, his Bombay residence, the Daria Mahal, on Nepean Sea Road.

The offer has been gratefully accepted and it is hoped to open the second Civil Defence Specialist School (the first is in Lahore) in this building early in October.

With the opening of this school there will be six Civil Defence Schools in India, namely:—

- (1) The Civil Defence Staff School, Lahore;
- (2) The Civil Defence Specialist School, Lahore;
- (3) The Civil Defence Industrial School, Calcutta;
- (4) The Civil Defence Instructors' School, Calcutta;
- (5) The Civil Defence Instructors' School, Hyderabad; and
- (6) The Civil Defence Specialist School, Bombay.





THESE BRITISH GIRLS ARE SALVAGING AND REPAIRING SWORDFISH AIRCRAFT IN A BRITISH AEROPLANE FACTORY

## HOW THE UNITED NATIONS ARE FEEDING THE WAR MACHINE

"The war machine is man and his equipment. In total war, the equipment means all the resources of the nations, the armies, the navies, industry, and agriculture. Great emphasis is often laid on economic power and industrial development when a nation's strength is being estimated, but the source of even this strength is manpower, manpower which has organized the resources of the nation so that they are at maximum effectiveness," declared Mr. J. E. Waddell broadcasting from the Delhi station of A.I.R.

Mr. J. E. Waddell is Special Representative of Metals Reserve Company and Defence Supplies Corporation. He has been in business in India for many years, and is thoroughly familiar with its problems. As the head of a leading American business organisation in India, he has come to know Indian, American and British business men all over the country, and is particularly well-fitted for the important job of purchasing from here some of the things that the United States needs to feed her war machine.

Mr. Waddell said: If men and their equipment are the war machine, then the first things required are food and water for the men. Obviously men can fight without weapons as long as they have the strength. I do not mean to make light of the Allied problem of food supply. The movement of food within and to and from

India is of impressive size. Furthermore, all of us are interested in the Allied food problem. But the problem of food in America is practically non-existent. A minor drink problem, tea and Scotch whisky does exist, but these beverages are not vital to Americans by any means. Even in wartime, I should say that America is adding to her food surplus. This often is not necessarily voluntary, although increased farm production has been encouraged by the Agricultural Administration.

### Reducing Starvation

All of us must regret that the hunger of some parts of the world cannot be alleviated immediately. Since this is not possible, it is the hope that once hostilities cease, the food reserves of America will be distributed widely, the evergrowing herds of cattle there will be called upon to restock depleted countries and thus post-war starvation will be reduced if not avoided. But the American problem is that of obtaining supplies of certain materials other than food for her war machine.

The Allied nations are blamed for being in a dreadful stage of unpreparedness at the time the war began. They were without adequate fighting implements, but the men of the Allied Nations have the power to organise, and they had, before this war, reached a level of industrialisation from which large-scale production of fighting

equipment was possible. Practical men realised even in 1918 that another war was only a question of time. As early as 1933, the War Department had made fairly comprehensive plans for industrial mobilisation in time of war.

### Plans For A Cause

These plans were the plans of the nations. We have gone far beyond that now and are making plans for a cause. A great part of these plans are beyond the paper stage and in operation. Combined planning, combined production, combined procurement and combined distribution are accomplishments of today. Publicity attaches first to combined military or naval operations about which we have heard a great deal already. Combined production's standardised models are also in the headlines. The supplying of our war machines according to a single programme, a unified plan, is being done already in the cases of certain materials and is likely to be done in this manner soon for all materials.

The increase in co-operation is revealing itself in India and the spirit in which the development is taking place is gratifying. There are combined buying programmes for particular goods and the movement of these goods is on a single Allied priority basis.

Price schedules are worked out that consider the interests of all the United Nations, what one should pay and what another should receive. The work of operating according to these plans is being done by the men of the Allied Nations. When men work according to these plans, men of the Empire, of China, of Russia, and



of America, they are working not only for their own families and country, but for the Allied cause.

The operations in India in accordance with these combined plans are on a large scale even though combined purchasing here is not yet the rule. In many instances the British Ministry of Supply and the American procurement organisations work through different agencies in India, or give separate orders to the same agents in India. But each is considerate of the other. As we understand each other's need, as we respect each other's problems, the combined buying policy evolves quite naturally. We combine our plans, we combine our production, so naturally that our procurement is, in a sense, combined.

#### Inevitable Changes

Combining our purchasing organisations, even increasing Government control of our buying, calls for much planning and a certain amount of interference with existing trade channels. We strive in war to become efficient. It is impossible to become so without there being changes in vocations, changes in personnel behaviours, changes in business. It is natural to look upon the prospects of a change with fear. Business men seem to dislike changes as much as, or more than, other groups. Indian business men are no exception. There must be changes in methods of doing business, mining, and farming, when conditions are changed so radically. When we use our steel for weapons of war, we do not have the same amount of steel for farm implements. When we have no petrol we may even go to the extreme of staying at home,

or walking. But the changes that the business man must put up with are nothing to the changes that his fellow-man, now in the army, must face.

#### "Business Better Than Usual"

The procurement plans of the Allied Nations are not petty things. Their objectives are to supply all of us with what we need. One thing that the farmer and the industrialist needs, whether he is in India, England or China, is a fair price for his labour. Combined planning goes a long way towards making this certain for him. Buying policies of the centralised agencies are worked out with a view to aiding the business or industry. Prices are at levels which do not disturb the economy, yet encourage production and delivery. As soon as buying is placed in the hands of a few and actual buying begins, facts replace rumours and the trade usually finds that "business better than usual" results.

I haven't talked much about our war machine; I have intentionally skipped lightly over the food and drink problem, spending most of my time discussing the combined effort and how important it is that we understand it and support it. Of course it means as much to us as Americans as to the people of India, and of the Allied Nations.

#### What U. S. Needs From India

It happens that I know America's needs from India better than I know the Allied needs. America needs certain strategic minerals and commodities from India. The fact that we are so nearly self-contained

*"Freedom and independence are today in jeopardy the world over. If the forces of conquest are not successfully resisted and defeated there will be no freedom and no independence and no opportunity for freedom for any nation. It is therefore to the single and supreme objective of defeating the Axis forces of aggression that the United Nations have pledged all their resources and efforts."—President Roosevelt's message on the first anniversary of the signing of the Atlantic Charter.*

seems to accentuate the need for the few items that we do not have within our own territory in sufficient quantities. Of all the materials that America must import from abroad, about 25 per cent are made available to us in varying quantities by India.

We want badly to see our war production machine supplied with strategic material from India. If a producer needs help, we try to see that he receives it. If a seller needs a buyer, we try to find one. If a shipper needs transportation, then we become interested in railways and steamers.

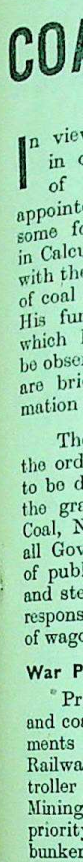
[ CONTINUED ON PAGE 249 ]



BRITISH WOMEN PUT THEIR SHOULDERS TO THE WHEEL OF INDUSTRY. HERE TWO WORKERS RIVET THE REAR FUSELAGE OF AN AIRCRAFT

INDIAN INFORMATION, OCTOBER 1, 1942





**B**etween the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea there is a stretch of land some 300 to 500 miles wide. It is like a bridge leading from Asia Minor, *viz.*, from Turkey and Iran to Eastern European Russia—this bridge is the Caucasus.

## A Beautiful Place

(where roses bloom in January), Gagry, Matsesta, Anapa, Sukhum, Poti. In the Caucasus the sub-tropical climate in the south, with its grapes, palm trees, tea and cotton plantations and silk farms, blends with the forests of the Caucasian foothills, which include rare export timber, such as boxtree, beech, redwood and the Alpine vegetation of higher altitudes. From Sukhum's tropical gardens on the Black Sea coast one can see with the naked eye the snowy peaks of the mountains.

The Caucasian mountain range runs roughly from the north-west of the Caucasus (Krasnodar) to the south-east (Baku) and in its central part has only one motorable pass—the famous Georgian military highway from Orjonikidze (formerly Vladikavkas) across the Daryal gorge and Krestovy pass to Tiflis. The highest peaks on this range are Mt. Elburz (18,500 ft.) and Mt. Kazbek (16,700 ft.) and they are the highest in Europe.

The Caucasian mountains divide the Caucasus into two definite parts: the flat agriculturally rich Northern Caucasus and the hilly Southern Caucasus. Administratively the Northern Caucasus is

subdivided into the north-eastern or Azov-Black Sea Area, and the north-western or Northern Caucasian area, whereas the south is called the trans-Caucasian area. The total population of the three areas is about 17,000,000, which is somewhat less than that of the Punjab, whereas the area is 200,000 sq. miles or double that of the Punjab.

The Azov-Black Sea area has Rostov-on-the-Don as its capital (500,000 population) and Novorossisk as its main seaport. Other large cities are Krasnodar and Maikop (oilfields), Taganrog, Armavir, Shakhty, Tuapse. This province includes the famous Donbas (Don basin) coalfields which extend north of the Don up to south of Millerovo. The machine-building industry is concentrated in Rostov. Agricultural machinery made there at the "Rosselmach" combine has enormously increased its output as a result of the two five-year plans and its output now is more than that of the whole of Russia before. The large Don and Cuban plains form the richest part of the Soviet Union's granaries.

Agriculture here is highly mechanised. The collective farm combine "Giant" for instance (situated near Salsk) is a colossal enterprise equipped with agricultural

[ CONTINUED ON PAGE 276 ]



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

## COAL DISTRIBUTION CONTROLLER

In view of the difficulties experienced in obtaining transport for the supply of coal, the Government of India appointed a Controller of Coal Distribution some four months ago with headquarters in Calcutta at No. 1, Council House Street, with the object of regulating the distribution of coal in the best interests of the country. His functions, as well as the manner in which he functions and the procedure to be observed when applying for his assistance are briefly stated below for public information:—

The Controller is responsible for deciding the order of priority in which the coal has to be despatched, and his functions include the granting of priority for all Shipment Coal, Naval Coal, Loco Coal for Railways, all Government requirements, requirements of public utility concerns, and of the iron and steel industries. The Controller is also responsible for the allotment and control of wagons normally classified under 'Public.'

### War Priorities

Programmes of Loco coal for Railways, and coal purchased for Government requirements through the Chief Mining Engineer, Railway Board, are referred to the Controller of Coal Distribution, by the Chief Mining Engineer, Railway Board. For priority in connection with shipment coal, bunker coal, and Government requirements,

other than coal purchased through the Chief Mining Engineer, Railway Board, applications should be made direct to the Controller of Coal Distribution. All applications for War Priorities received by the Supply Department should be forwarded to the Controller of Coal Distribution by that Department.

Applications for priorities by public utility concerns, by iron and steel industries, for coke-ovens, etc., previously addressed to the Coal Wagon Supply Committee should likewise be addressed by these concerns direct to the Controller of Coal Distribution, who will draw up the necessary programmes, and issue instructions to the Railways.

In the case of coal and coke required for domestic consumption and for local industries not directly engaged in war work, it has been arranged that the Director of Industries of the Provincial Governments of the Punjab, Bombay, Madras, Central Provinces and Berar, North-West Frontier Province, Sind and Assam will function as Provincial Coal Controllers. In Bengal the functions will be discharged by the Chief Controller of Prices, in Bihar and Orissa by the Price Controllers, and in the United Provinces by the Provincial Transport Board. They will advise the Controller of Coal Distribution of the requirements of different centres in the order of urgency

and will ensure that the coal received is used for the purpose for which it was ordered.

The Controller is generally able to draw up a programme of distribution under which a limited number of wagons is set aside daily for the miscellaneous day-to-day requirements of the public not covered by any priority. The number of wagons set apart under this system is expected to cover all demands for general use. Where, however, special assistance is required for any area, the Controller of Coal Distribution will at his discretion endeavour to give that assistance on information supplied by Provincial Coal Controllers.

In applying to the Provincial Controllers for assistance, parties concerned should state the names of collieries with whom orders for coal have been placed, the quantity covered by each order, and the period in which delivery has to be made. Normally all applicants will be expected to draw their supplies from the nearest field, and an explanation will be necessary in all cases where an order has not been placed in the nearest field.

## RESTRICTION ON THE LENGTH OF CINEMA FILMS

On May 16, 1942, it was announced that, in view of the need for rigid economy in the consumption of raw films, the Government of India had issued a notification prohibiting, *inter alia*, the exhibition in any one show of any trailer or trailers made in India exceeding 400 feet in the aggregate length.

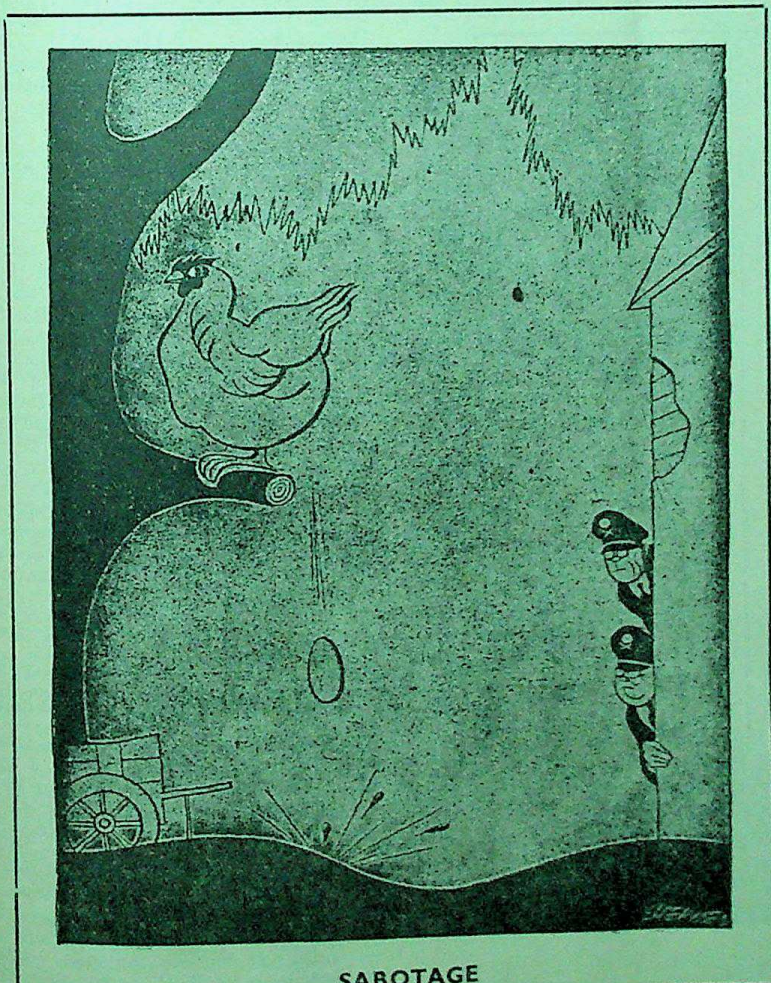
There appears to be a general impression that this prohibition does not apply to trailers produced or certified for public exhibition before May 16, 1942, which is the date of the above notifications, and it is understood that trailers are still being exhibited in contravention of the prohibitory order.

As this is due to a *bona fide* misapprehension, the Government of India do not propose to take any action against the offenders, but, on the other hand, have decided to allow time up to October 7, 1942, to enable those concerned to withdraw from circulation and re-edit trailers each of whose length exceeds the permissible length of 400 feet.

The notification is being amended accordingly.

## CENTRAL LEGISLATURE

His Excellency the Governor-General has had under consideration, in consultation with his colleagues, the question whether the situation which has developed in India since the taking of the decision to summon the Autumn Session of the Central Legislature late in October renders it desirable to summon an earlier Session with the primary object of affording the Legislature an opportunity of discussing that situation. He has now decided to summon a Session of both Chambers in New Delhi to commence on Monday, September 14, in the case of the Legislative Assembly and a few days later in the case of the Council of State. The Session will be a short one and it is not proposed to summon a further Session before the normal Budget Session of 1943.



SABOTAGE



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

## MORE INCOME-TAX REVENUE

The Public Accounts Committee met on August 11 and examined the appropriation accounts of the grants for which the Central Board of Revenue and the Commerce Department are responsible.

The receipts from income-tax which have shown a steady increase since 1936-37 have of late been mounting very rapidly. As against Rs. 13.86 crores in 1936-37, the revenue from this source was Rs. 21.77 crores in 1940-41, about Rs. 44 crores in 1941-42 and is expected to be no less than Rs. 64 crores in the current year. A remarkable feature of the Income-tax administration, however, is that the expenditure of this Department which was Rs. 78 lakhs in 1936-37 is expected to be only Rs. 86 lakhs in 1942-43 in spite of the revenue collected having increased almost five times.

### Customs Revenue

Customs revenue on the other hand shows a decline from the peak of Rs. 43.11 crores in 1937-38 to about Rs. 36½ crores last year and an estimate of Rs. 35.35 crores in the current year. Central Excise duties have also steadily increased since the war broke out and have risen to about Rs. 12.30 crores in 1941-42 as against Rs. 6.53 crores in 1939-40. The budget

estimate for the current year remains the same at Rs. 12.30 crores.

The present position of salt, opium and matches was also discussed. There is, it was stated, no shortage of salt in the country, there being ample stocks with the Salt Department, but there had been acute local shortages of this commodity due to the difficulty of transport. The position was in process of being remedied.

The cultivation of opium was being rapidly increased in order to meet the great demand for medicinal purposes which had been brought about by the war, but the system of Governmental control continued to be in full operation.

The poor quality of matches being manufactured at present was explained as being due to a shortage of chlorate of potash, the sole source of which before the war was Sweden. Steps are now being taken to start the manufacture of this chemical in India.

It was stated that the amount in the War Risks (Goods) Insurance Fund at present was in the neighbourhood of Rs. 3 crores and the cover approximately Rs. 280 crores.



END OF A LION HUNT

## DEARNESS ALLOWANCE

In view of the recent sharp and wide-spread rise in the cost of living the Government of India have reviewed the adequacy of the relief now admissible to servants of the Central Government, other than railway employees, the revised allowances admissible to whom have already been announced.

Dearness allowance schemes hitherto adopted by the Government of India vary according to provinces, but generally speaking afford relief ranging from Re. 1 to Rs. 4 to Government servants drawing pay up to certain limits usually Rs. 30 or Rs. 40. Government consider that it is now necessary to afford relief on a more generous scale, and that it is desirable to adopt a scheme for application to all Central Government servants irrespective of the province in which they may be serving. They have therefore decided to grant allowances on the scale given below. These will be admissible as from August 1, 1942, and will be drawn with pay for August payable on September 1, 1942.

For the purpose of these allowances India has been divided into three areas:—

Area A includes Calcutta, Bombay and their vicinities.

Area B comprises the following towns: Abbottabad, Agra, Ahmedabad, Allahabad, Amritsar, Bangalore, Benares, Cawnpore, Dacca, Darjeeling, Dehra Dun, Delhi, Dhanushkodi, Hyderabad (Deccan), Karachi, Lahore, Lucknow, Madras, Meerut, Mussoorie, Nagpur, Naini Tal, Ootacamund, Patna, Peshawar, Poona, Quetta, Ranchi, Rawalpindi, Shillong and Simla.

Area C includes all the areas not specified in A and B above.

### Rates Of Allowances

For those drawing Rs. 39 and below the rates of allowance in Areas A, B and C respectively will be Rs. 6, Rs. 5 and Rs. 4. For those drawing pay above Rs. 39 but not above Rs. 100 in area A, the allowance will be Rs. 9. Similarly for persons on pay ranging from Rs. 39 to Rs. 80 in Area B the allowance will be Rs. 7 and for persons drawing pay between Rs. 39 and Rs. 60 in Area C the allowance will be Rs. 6. Allowances will also be given to persons who draw pay up to Rs. 108, Rs. 86 and Rs. 65 in Areas A, B and C, respectively, to the extent necessary to secure that they are not worse off in total emoluments than those drawing Rs. 100, Rs. 80 and Rs. 60 respectively.

## AID FOR DEPENDANTS OF SINGAPORE COLLEGE STAFF

Dependants in India of members of the Staff of Raffles College, Singapore, who were recruited outside Malaya and who are now presumed to be in enemy hands will be granted the same relief as is being afforded to the dependants in India of Malayan Government servants who have been left behind in Malaya. Such persons are requested to get into touch as early as possible with the Malayan Representative in India at either Andrews Building, Bangalore, or at Menkwa Building, Outram Road, Bombay.

INDIAN INFORMATION, OCTOBER 1, 1942



# INDUSTRY

## INDIA'S NEW RUBBER FACTORIES

One of the effects of the control of rubber manufactures is the restriction of production in non-essential manufactures and the consequent temporary curtailment of consumption and accumulation of stocks in the hands of producers.

The Government of India have now arranged to buy these stocks and hold them against production when the new factories now being installed for the production of war requirements of rubber goods come into operation.

When these factories are in full production the present small surplus will be more than fully absorbed. The problem then will be to find enough rubber for essential requirements, and every possible source of additional supply is being investigated—including the stimulation of production on plantations, collection of wild rubber from various areas, the early production of reclaim and the possibilities of various kinds of substitutes.

## ASSISTANT WHEAT COMMISSIONERS

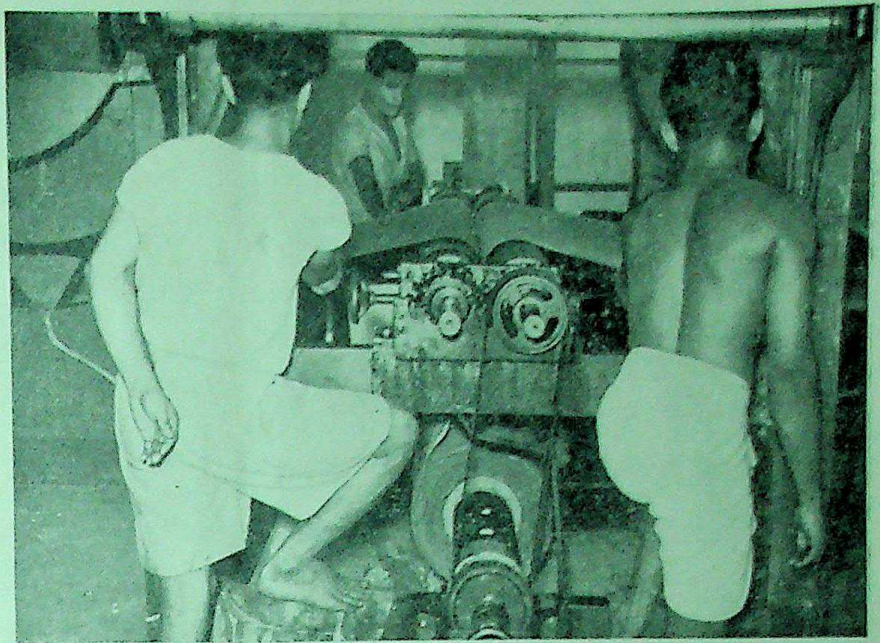
It has been felt for some time that the Wheat Commissioner for India should have an agency at the wheat producing centres to assist him in the administration of the Central Wheat Control Order and other orders issued by the Government of India from time to time in connection with wheat control.

While he has invariably received the fullest co-operation of the provincial Price Controllers and their staff, the local authorities are, in the nature of things, pre-occupied with problems of price control not only relating to wheat but also other food grains and miscellaneous commodities. The administration of wheat control involves the furnishing of returns by the flour mills, the compilation of statistical data regarding the production and distribution of wheat and wheat products, checking up of returns furnished by wheat dealers and stockists and a variety of other problems which concern more than one province and regarding which the neighbouring provinces or adjacent Indian States may conceivably entertain different points of views.

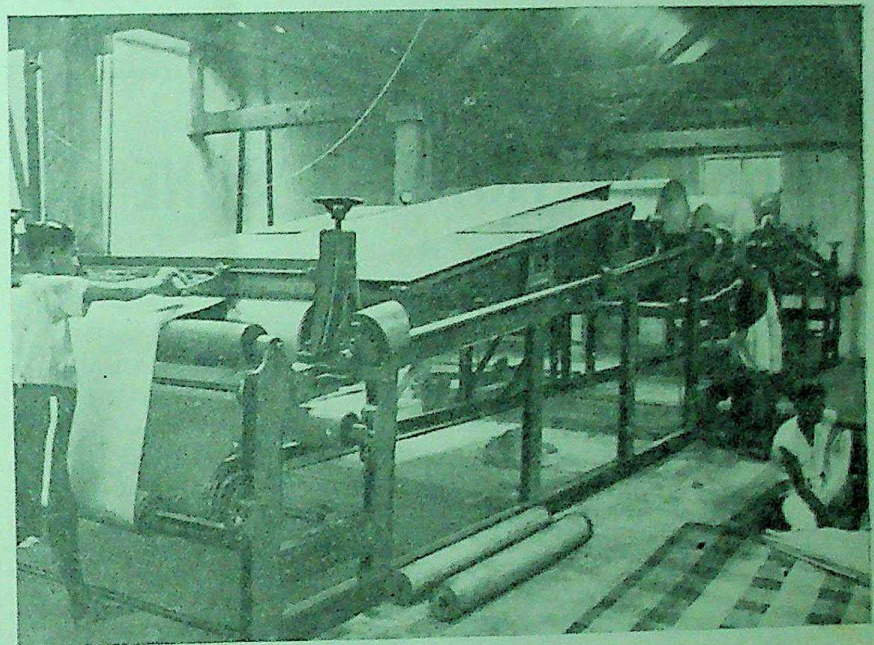
### Wheat Control

Apart from these considerations, it seems desirable that the administration of wheat control although conducted under the auspices of the Central Government should, if possible, be decentralised so as to avoid delay in disposing of applications for permits.

Having due regard to these considerations the Government of India have, after prior consultation with the Provincial Governments concerned, decided to create two posts of Assistant Wheat Commissioner, one in charge of the United Provinces circle and the other in the combined charge of the Punjab and Sind circle.



This machine in an Indian rubber factory was invented by a Travancore expert and manufactures Army rubber ground sheets



RUBBER IS APPLIED TO TWO STRIPS OF CLOTH WHICH ARE JOINED INTO A SINGLE SHEET

They have appointed Mr. John Mannawar, lately Provincial Marketing Officer, United Provinces, to the post of Assistant Wheat Commissioner, United Provinces, with his headquarters at Lucknow and Mr. Ijaz Ahmed, Commercial Judge, of the Punjab Judicial Service, to be Assistant Wheat Commissioner, Punjab and Sind, with his headquarters at Lahore.

Both Messrs. Mannawar and Ahmed have taken charge of their duties.

## SUGAR STOCKS

Factory returns indicate that the sugar stock position on August 1, 1942, was 3,10,000 tons. During July despatches from factories amounted to 83,000 tons.

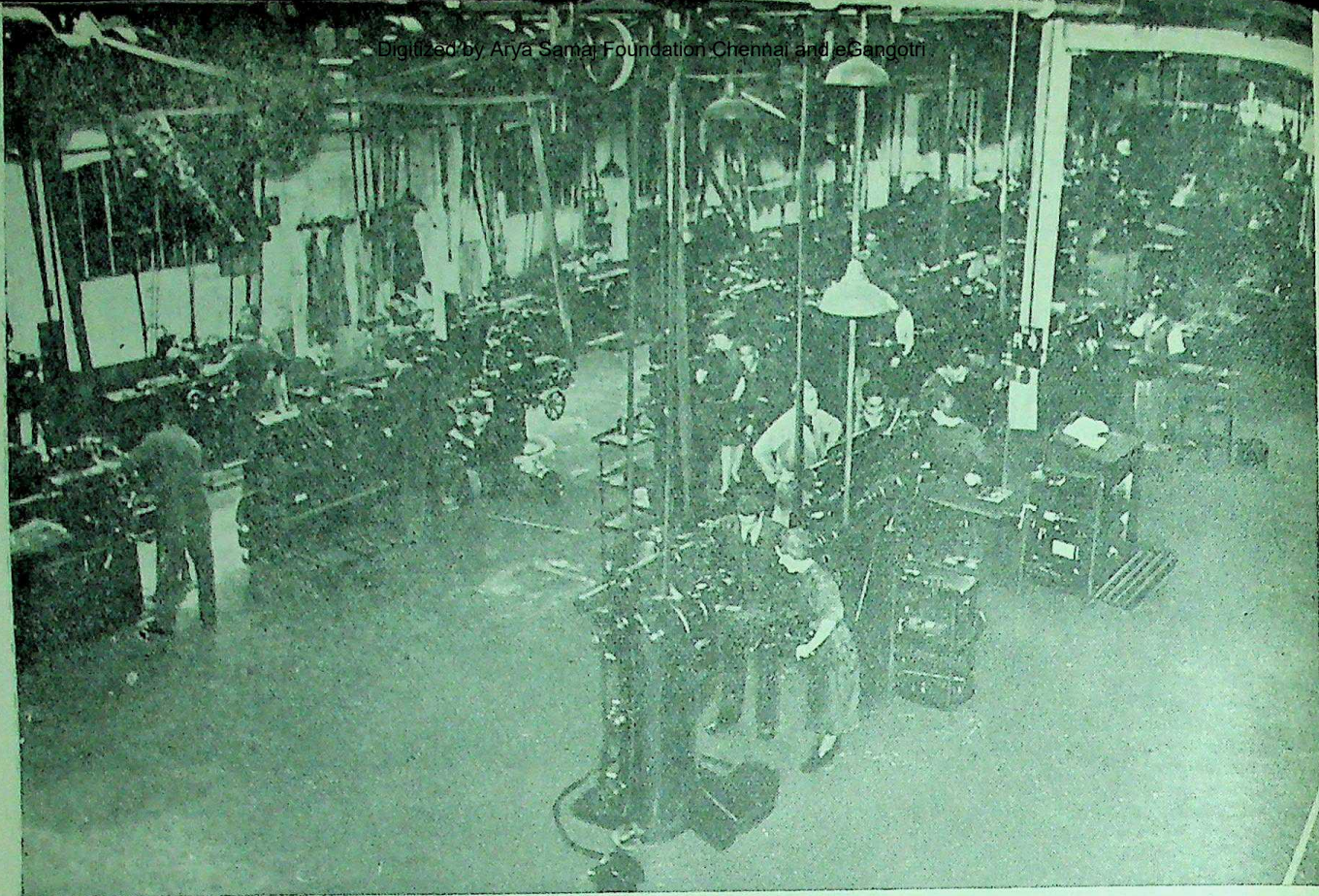
Stocks in hand are adequate to meet normal requirements during the next four months.

## COMPENSATION FOR REQUISITIONING PROPERTY

To protect those hire-purchasers whose property may be acquired or requisitioned by Government an amendment was made to the Defence of India Rules on August 15, 1942.

A new proviso, added to rule 75A, provides for an equitable and prompt apportionment of the amount of compensation between the hire-purchaser and the hire-seller. Where immediately before requisition the property, by virtue of a hire-purchase agreement, is in the possession of a person other than the owner, the amount of compensation to be paid by Government shall be apportioned between that person and the owner as they may agree upon between themselves and, if they fail to arrive at an agreement, in accordance with the award of an arbitrator to be appointed for this purpose by the Government.





BEVIN BOYS AND BRITISH GIRL TRAINEES WORKING TOGETHER IN A MACHINE SHOP AT A TRAINING CENTRE SOMEWHERE IN BRITAIN

## TECHNICAL TRAINING SCHEMES

**T**he Public Accounts Committee, on August 12, 1942, examined the Appropriation Accounts for 1940-41 of the grants for which the Departments of Labour and Supply are responsible.

Among other matters the Committee reviewed the working of the Bevin Training Scheme and of the Technical Training Scheme for Skilled Artisans. Since the inception of the Bevin Scheme 254 trainees have been sent to England. Of these 122 have returned after completing their six months' course without a single casualty on the seas. Most of those who have returned have been given supervisory jobs

in industry or have been absorbed in the Army or as instructors at training centres under the Technical Training Scheme. Their average earnings now are higher by 127 per cent compared to their earnings before they were trained. It is intended to continue to send batches of 50 every quarter for the duration of the war.

So far 39,000 trainees have been enrolled under the Technical Training Scheme of the Labour Department. Of these 10,700 have completed their training, while 28,300 are still on the rolls. There are at present vacancies for another 11,000 candidates, which the Department is anxious to fill

and for which end it is considering further schemes of publicity. Trainees while under training receive a monthly stipend of Rs. 22 if they are non-matriculates or Rs. 27 if they are matriculates and are absorbed into industry, either private or Governmental, on completion of their training which lasts from six to twelve months.

### EARLIER MEETING

The Committee, on August 11, examined the Appropriation Accounts for 1940-41 of the Departments of War Transport, Posts and Air and Information and Broadcasting.

Under the Pilots Training Scheme 340 cadets were posted for training, of whom 244 completed the course. Of these

[ CONTINUED ON PAGE 271 ]



A party of M.P.'s, including Mr. M. S. McCordule, Miss Irene Ward and Sir Stanley Reed, visited Bevin boys at a training centre. The party was escorted by Mr. S. Mahmoud, in charge of the Indian trainees' hostel



# EDUCATION-HEALTH-LANDS

## INDUS COMMISSION REPORT

The Indus Commission appointed in September 1941 to investigate the complaint of the Sind Government against the Punjab Government about the waters of the Indus river system has just presented its Report. Sind's complaint was twofold: (1) that the effects of the Bhakra Dam Project and various other projects contemplated by the Punjab, when added to the full effects of certain other projects already in operation or about to be completed, will be to lower the level of the river in Sind and to impair seriously the working of Sind's inundation canals; (2) that the Thal and Haveli projects will create a serious shortage of water at Sukkur in the *Rabi* season (October to March) and will interfere with the working of the Sukkur Barrage canals.

The Report describes the complexity and importance of the questions that arise in inter-State or inter-Provincial disputes of this character. The first case of the kind which arose in the U.S.A. went on in their Supreme Court for six years. The present case is the first of its kind in India. The Report contains an elaborate discussion of the legal position, in the course of which American, European and Egyptian as well as Indian precedents are examined in detail; the conclusion is that the rights of the parties concerned in this dispute must be determined by applying the rule of "equitable apportionment," each party being entitled to a fair share of the waters of the Indus and its tributaries.

### Central Intervention Suggested

The Commission considers that an agreement between the parties providing for an apportionment of the Indus waters would undoubtedly be the most satisfactory solution; but such apportionment, to be practicable, would probably require the construction of two new barrages in Sind and would raise questions of finance which might prove insoluble without the intervention of the Central Government. In support of the suggestion for Central intervention, the Commission points out the enormous volumes of water that are at present running waste to the sea. The new Punjab schemes, if permitted, would take up only a fraction of this waste. To enable these schemes to be executed with-

out any risk to Sind, Sind's inundation canals would have to be converted into weir-controlled systems. The two new barrages contemplated by Sind would, however, also bring under cultivation about 19 lakhs of acres of new land.

The Commission finds that the cumulative effect of the existing and contemplated Punjab projects would materially impair the working of Sind's inundation canals, particularly in the month of September. The Punjab Government have given assurances that they will not take up any of their projects for the next three years. The Commission's first recommendation is that during this period the Central Government should set up a Committee to examine the two barrage projects put forward by Sind as well as any alternatives, and the possibility of financing them on suitable terms. On the materials before them, they consider that a contribution of Rs. 2 crores by the Punjab would be a not unreasonable sum for that Province to pay towards the cost of those projects. The Commission hopes that, as a result of the investigation by the proposed Committee, an agreed scheme will emerge whereby Sind will be able to have her barrages and the Punjab her storage schemes. But if the Commission's first recommendation is not accepted and if no such agreement emerges, the Commission recommends that the Punjab should be permitted to go forward with her contemplated projects subject, in the case of the Bhakra and Beas Dams, to the payment of compensation according to the principles of the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, 1873.

### Anderson Committee Proposal

The Commission finds no sufficient reason for giving the Sind inundation canals a right to more water than they are entitled to under the recommendations of the Anderson Committee of 1935; but Sind should not be prohibited from taking any surplus water which may be running waste to the sea past the Sukkur Barrage, subject to certain provisos.

As regards Sind's *Rabi* case, the Commission's findings on the main issues are: (1) that Sind's claim to the priority of the Sukkur Barrage over the Thal and Haveli

projects cannot be endorsed in full; and (2) that the authorised monthly withdrawals of the Sukkur Barrage canals are "mean monthly withdrawals" in the sense that they may draw more than the sanctioned figure on one day and less on another, so long as the total withdrawal for each month does not exceed the sanctioned figure.

The Commission's recommendation as regards costs is that (following the American practice) the Punjab and Sind should bear their own costs as regards counsel's fees, establishment charges, etc., and that the expenses of the Commission should be borne by them in equal shares.

## FEEDING THE WAR MACHINE

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 261]

Of course, all of our operations are carried on with the assistance of the Government of India, and we find that Indians are co-operating fully with us in this effort. The producer in India may ask for much assistance, but he is usually able to increase his production greatly if given even a little. The Indian seller's first price is seldom too low, but give him a fair price and he will work hard, economically, and trade with you in volume. Give him charcoal instead of petrol, carts instead of lorries, and a week instead of a day, and he will deliver the goods.

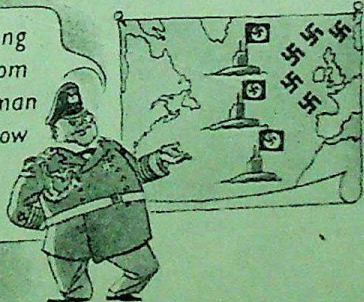
We are anxious that our industries, engaged now seriously in producing war machines, receive as much from India as they need. If this requires only movement of goods, let us aid that movement. If this requires new purchases, prices, methods, let us make those innovations. If this requires increased production, more labour, more tools, let us meet those demands. Let us meet these unusual demands by doing all that we can and using our ingenuity fully.

America and Britain have only a part to play. They can supply some machines, and some technicians and supply ocean transport. Next they can be good customers. Whether Britain buys for herself or for all, or whether America does the buying, the intention is to pay a fair price and move the goods as quickly as possible. By so doing, we will ensure fair treatment of our suppliers, and the rapid defeat of our enemies.

### A GERMAN BOAST FEB. 1941

Britain will be pinning hopes on support from the U.S.A., but German naval forces will know how to cope with increased supplies to Britain

BROADCAST, 12 FEB



### GERMAN ADMISSION OCT. 1941

We must not have illusions. Many American-manufactured planes will fly over Germany and many American bombs will fall on our towns.

GERMAN PRESS, 10 OCT





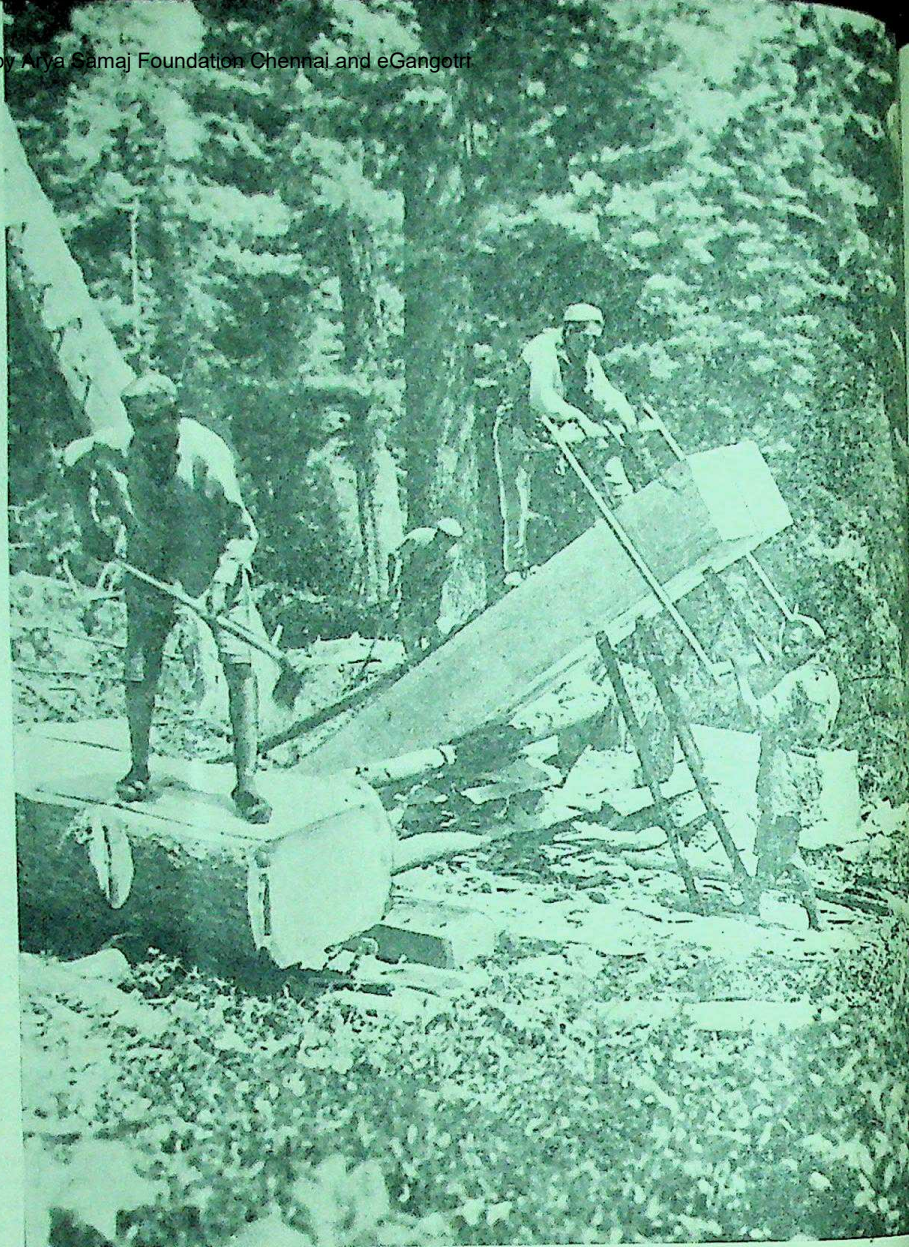
# INDIAN TIMBER FOR AIRCRAFT AND GLIDERS

**W**ith India undertaking aircraft and glider construction, interest in Indian woods likely to be of use for this type of work has been intensified.

The Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, which has investigated the subject and organised tests for compiling comparative information on the strengths of Indian woods, has just published a "Note on Indian Timbers for Aircraft and Gliders." According to this publication, Indian spruce of aircraft standard is obtainable in lengths up to possibly 10 or 12 feet, but the larger lengths of clear timber are not likely to be available. Small quantities of Indian aircraft spruce have already been extracted and put into use. Arrangements are now in train to organise the supply of larger quantities, and a forest officer has been placed on special duty to organise continued supplies of specially selected spruce and fir for aircraft work in India.

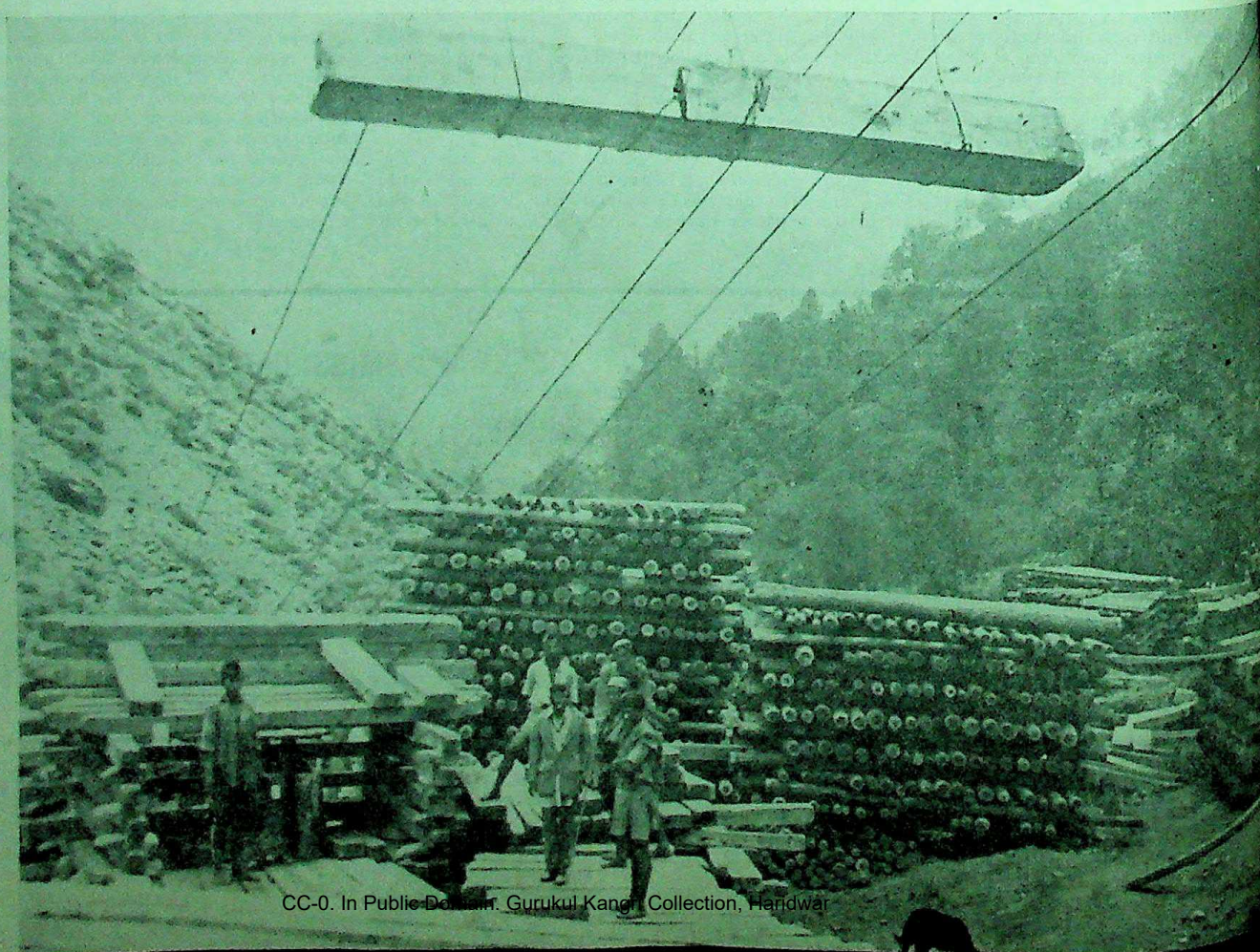
## In Other Countries

The wood mainly used for aircraft work in other countries is Sitka spruce, a tree of the western Canadian and American forests, which is not indigenous in India. But India also has a spruce species, and if properly selected wood is used, it compares favourably in strength with Sitka spruce. The Indian species is, however, a very knotty wood, and it is difficult to obtain clear aircraft material in long lengths to meet all the requirements. Even with Sitka



Quantities of spruce and fir, supplied by Indian forests, are being used in India for aircraft work. Here, workers are sawing sleepers in Kulu forests

ROPEWAYS FOR THE TRANSPORT OF LARGE BEAMS ARE ERECTED AND WORKED BY INDIAN LABOUR IN THE KULU FORESTS





## KRAFT PAPER FROM BAMBOO

**K**raft paper is now being manufactured in India on a large scale. Indian paper mills have undertaken this manufacture as a result of experiments at the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, which established the suitability of bamboo as raw material for its production.

The average consumption of Kraft paper during the five years preceding the war was approximately 16,000 tons per annum. The use of Kraft paper as wrapping and packing material has considerably increased in recent years.

Investigations were started at the Forest Research Institute in 1937 to explore the possibilities of manufacturing Kraft paper from indigenous raw materials. Bamboo, which is available in large quantities at a cheap price, was selected for the experiments and has proved suitable, according to an interim report published by the Institute.

### PILGRIM PASSES FOR IRAQ

There are no restrictions this year on the issue of pilgrim passes for Iraq or the Hejaz via Iraq. Pilgrims to the Hejaz via Iraq are however advised, in view of the bad condition of the Najaf-Medina route which resulted in hardship to a number of pilgrims last year, to follow some other route. Intending pilgrims are also warned that permission may be withdrawn at short notice.

### TECHNICAL TRAINING SCHEMES

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 268]

no less than 241 were taken into the Indian Air Force—209 as pilots and 32 as observers.

In February, 1941, a scheme for training aircraft mechanics was started with the intention of training 2,000 mechanics a year for two years at a total cost of Rs. 59½ lakhs. So far 2,303 trainees have been posted to training centres. Of these about 800 have been absorbed in the Indian Air Force, 100 in civil industry and about 600 are still under training.

The publications of All-India Radio have all shown an increase in circulation in the year under review, but the "Indian Listener" is the only one which has been run at a profit.

### EVACUEE TECHNICIANS

The National Service Labour Tribunals in the Provinces are maintaining registers of technical personnel evacuated from Burma, Malaya and other Eastern countries with a view to securing employment for them. So far 370 such evacuees (mostly from Burma) have registered themselves in Bengal, 92 in Madras, 54 in the Punjab and the North-West Frontier Province, 31 in the United Provinces, 25 in Bombay, 7 in the Central Provinces and 4 in Bihar and Orissa.

The Bengal Tribunal has so far secured employment for 91 evacuees, nearly 25 per cent of the number registered in that Province. Madras comes next having secured employment for 20, nearly 22 per cent of the evacuees registered there. The Punjab and N.-W. F. P. Tribunal has secured employment for seven evacuees, the Bombay Tribunal for two and the C. P. and Berar Tribunal for one.

TWO BY TWO LARGE BEAMS ARE CARRIED ON ROPEWAYS DOWN STEEP HIMALAYAN HILLSIDES

spruce only 5 to 10 per cent of the timber cut is suitable for aircraft work, but good lengths of clear timber free of knots can be obtained with that species.

The note emphasises the need for proper selection and gives specifications for the selection of Indian spruce for aircraft work. It also suggests that one or two of the lighter Indian hardwoods, such as *champ* or *bonsum*, may possibly fill the deficiency where longer lengths of aircraft timber are required.

Brief descriptions of several Indian species considered suitable for making aircraft plywood and propellers are also given.

### LOCUST SITUATION IN N.-W. INDIA

Locust swarm activity was on the whole less in all parts of North-West India during the second half of July, than in the first fortnight, as a large number of swarms rested and laid eggs. Gregarious breeding

was in active progress in some western districts of the U. P., south-western parts of Bikaner State, north-eastern parts of Jodhpur State, parts of Alwar, Bharatpur and Dholpur, almost the whole of Jaipur State, Tharad, and Palanpur, etc. In Sind, Jaisalmer and western Jodhpur breeding was less active than during the corresponding period last year.

Additional areas where breeding was observed included Orchha, Gwalior, Karauli States, some western districts of the U. P., and certain areas in Patiala and Nabha States.

Some damage by swarms and hoppers was reported from certain parts of Rajputana.

The monsoons which have been very favourable for 'kharif' crops are unfortunately also conducive to active locust breeding. Unless effective control measures are taken 'kharif' crops are likely to be seriously damaged by the home-bred swarms during August and September.



# COMMUNICATIONS

## RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' SERVICE CONDITIONS DISCUSSED AT DELHI MEETING

The 21st half-yearly meeting between the Railway Board and the All-India Railwaymen's Federation was held in Delhi on Monday, August 10, 1942. The deputation from the Federation included, besides Mr. Jamnadas Mehta, the President, and Mr. S. Guruswami, the General Secretary, some twenty other delegates from various Unions affiliated to the Federation. Mr. Jamnadas Mehta led the deputation. The following subjects were discussed:—

- (i) Dearness allowance.
- (ii) The extension of Provident Fund benefits.
- (iii) Staff problems in the present emergency.
- (iv) Frontier allowance to staff on the Quetta Division of the North-Western Railway.
- (v) Crews-in-Charge on the Bengal and Assam Railway.
- (vi) Passes over foreign lines.
- (vii) The application of the Hours of Employment Regulations to running staff.

In opening the meeting, Sir Leonard Wilson, the Chief Commissioner of Railways, welcomed the Federation and expressed his great appreciation of the arduous work railwaymen of all grades have been performing under difficult conditions throughout the country. He also expressed appreciation of the undertaking the Federation had given to use their influence with the men in keeping them at their posts during times of emergency. The staff in Assam particularly were working under very difficult conditions and no one was more conscious than the Railway Board of the strain imposed on them.

Mr. Jamnadas Mehta, President of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation, thanked the Chief Commissioner for his kind welcome and stated that the Federation adhered to the resolution they had passed in April, undertaking to use their influence with the staff in keeping them at their posts.

### Dearness Allowance

Mr. Mehta then referred to the agreement reached between the Railway Board and himself in regard to the grant of increased dearness allowance to the staff, which was published on August 8, 1942. He stated that the Council of the Federation had given him plenary powers to negotiate with Government in this matter and it was in exercise of such powers that he had been a party to the agreement. He said, however, on behalf of the Council that there should be an early review of the scheme with a view to affording to Railwaymen automatic relief for the rise in the cost of living to avoid unnecessary delay and hardships of the men.

**Extension of Provident Fund benefits.**—Mr. Mehta inquired whether information was available concerning the number of men who have taken advantage of the recent extension of Provident Fund benefits on an optional basis to employees with

16 years' service and what expenditure this extension had involved. The Chief Commissioner of Railways stated in reply that in the first 9 months after the introduction of the revised rule, about 35 per cent of those who were then made eligible to join had taken advantage of the option. Mr. Mehta desired that subscription to Provident Fund should be made compulsory but agreed that he would not press for it when he was told that a large percentage of those eligible would, in all probability, eventually exercise the option and join the fund. He pleaded for a liberal extension as he considered the pace of advance too slow. After discussion the Chief Commissioner stated that he was prepared to recommend to Government that the extension should be down to those having 10 years' service and over. The Federation then referred to anomalies arising from certain staff being classed as inferior. It was explained that what was proposed was that staff with 10 years' service and over, irrespective of their classification and pay, should have the option to subscribe and that it was preferable to continue the extension of benefits on the present lines than to introduce new criteria.

### Staff Problems

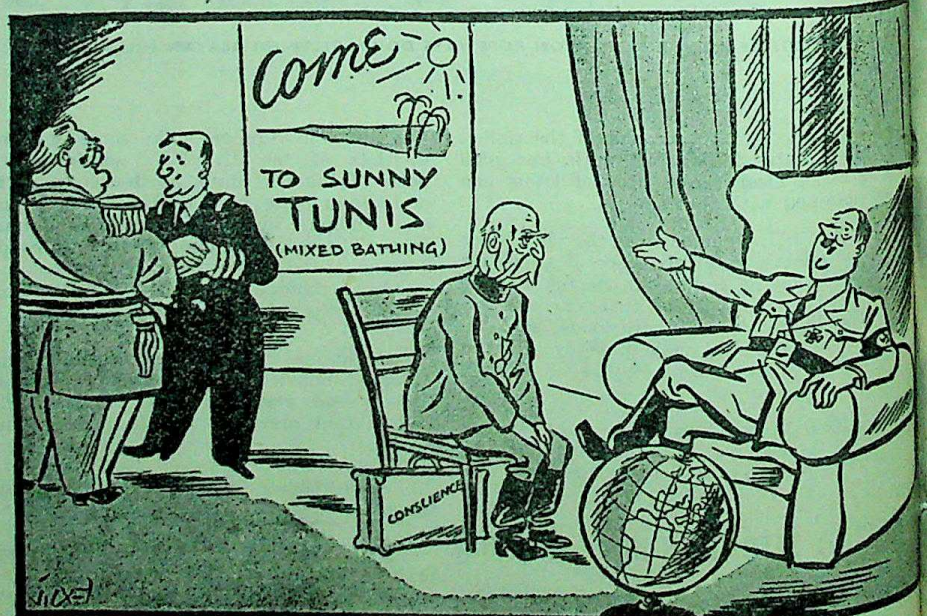
**Staff problems in the present emergency.**—The Chief Commissioner stated that Government proposed to issue an Ordinance for abrogating the Hours of Employment Regulations on certain railways should it be found necessary to do so in an emergency. He stated that this action would be taken only when absolutely necessary and that during the time the Regulations remained in abeyance staff would be paid for overtime at 1½ times their ordinary rate of pay. The Federation in agreeing emphasised that

action under the proposed Ordinance should be resorted to only when it was absolutely unavoidable.

**Frontier allowance to staff on the Quetta Division and at Karachi.**—It was represented by the Federation that certain fitters of the Quetta Division and at Karachi were deprived of Frontier or Local Allowance respectively in consequence of their being classed as inferior staff. There was no difference in the rates of pay of these men at Karachi and on the Quetta and other Divisions. The Chief Commissioner promised to look into the case.

**Crews-in-Charge on the Bengal and Assam Railway.**—The Federation represented that crews-in-charge on the old rate of pay were not given travelling allowance though the Administration claimed that the pay included an element for travelling allowance. The Chief Commissioner pointed out that the revised scale of pay plus travelling allowance was Rs. 15 less than the old consolidated rate of pay and there was, therefore, no case for increasing the emoluments of those on the old scales of pay.

**Passes over foreign railways.**—It was represented on behalf of the Federation that hardship was caused to staff formerly entitled to a higher class of pass who, now under the pay limits in the revised pass rules, were entitled to a lower class on a Foreign Railway and it was stated that this hardship applied particularly to staff in Southern India where the scales of pay were low. The Chief Commissioner explained that it was impossible to have uniformity of scales of pay on all railways and such anomalies would, therefore, continue to exist. He further considered that this question should not be pursued under present circumstances when the public were being pressed to restrict their travel and the Federation agreed that the question should be deferred for consideration at the end of the war.



"NOW, AS ONE HONOURABLE SOLDIER TO ANOTHER"

INDIAN INFORMATION, OCTOBER 1, 1942



## 2. COMMUNICATIONS

**Application of Hours of Employment Regulations to running staff.**—It was represented on behalf of the Federation that present traffic conditions imposed a severe strain on running staff and the application of the Hours of Employment Regulations to such staff should be considered. The Chief Commissioner stated that considerable difficulty was being experienced at present in finding the trained staff necessary to deal with the traffic and limitations in hours of work would render the situation even more difficult. The Board would, however, undertake to pursue the question of the application of the Hours of Employment Regulations to running staff after the war and in the meantime the endeavour to obtain an adequate number of trained staff would continue.

Two other subjects which were brought up by the Federation, namely, the terms for Defence of India Railway Units and the scales of pay for certain mechanic apprentices were reserved for later discussion with a small deputation from among those present.

In conclusion, Mr. Mehta thanked the Chief Commissioner of Railways for the very patient hearing given to the representatives of the Federation.

## INCREASED RAILWAY SURPLUSES

The Public Accounts Committee, on August 17, 1942, examined the accounts of the Railway Department for the year 1940-41. The dominant features of the year were the increase in traffic brought about by the war and the enhancement of rates and fares which took effect from March 1, 1940. As a result of these causes the surplus for the year amounted to nearly Rs. 18½ crores, the highest in any year up to 1940-41 in the history of the Indian Railways. This record figure has however been improved upon in 1941-42, the surplus for which is over Rs. 28 crores.

As a result of this prosperity the Railways have been able to contribute to general revenues not only the current contribution due from them under the Railway Convention but have also paid substantial sums on account of arrears in spite of the continuance of the moratorium. In 1940-41 their total contribution to general revenues was Rs. 12.16 crores and in 1941-42 this had risen to Rs. 20.19 crores. The amount of unpaid contribution now stands at Rs. 12.61 crores. The Railways were also enabled to pay off during the year 1941-42 over Rs. 7½ crores towards the loan they had taken from the Depreciation Fund in lean years, their outstanding liability on this account being now less than Rs. 20½ crores.

### 7,30,000 Employees

The total amount of Government capital invested in Railways at the end of the year 1940-41 was Rs. 732 crores. Private capital was only Rs. 29 crores and had been reduced to this figure from Rs. 77 crores at which it stood in 1924-25. The total number of employees of the Railways at the end of 1941-42 was no less than 7,30,000.

The Committee concluded its examination of the Railway Accounts on August 18, 1942.

INDIAN INFORMATION, OCTOBER 1, 1942

## HOW TO ADDRESS LETTERS TO TROOPS OVERSEAS

How letters and parcels from India for troops serving overseas should be addressed is made clear in a postal notice recently issued.

Correspondence for troops who have left India as part of, or to join, an Indian formation should be addressed as follows:—

(1) Army Number (in the case of other ranks only), (2) Rank, (3) Initials and Name, (4) Either (a) Squadron/Battery/Company (if known), Battalion and Regiment, or (b) (if serving with the Headquarters of a formation) appointment (if known) and number of brigade, division or corps headquarters, or (c) if serving with Force Headquarters of troops in the Middle East, Ceylon, etc., appointment (if known) followed by the indication G.H.Q., Middle East Forces, or H.Q., Ceylon Command, etc., or (d) if serving in H.Q. 2nd Echelon, H.Q. Base Area, or H.Q.L. of C Area giving

all particulars and adding G.H.Q., Middle East, or H.Q., Ceylon Command, etc. (5) C/o Base Postal Depot, Bombay; or, in the case of air mail correspondence, C/o Base Air Post Depot, Karachi.

Individuals proceeding overseas to join an Indian formation should be addressed C/o the Reinforcement Camp concerned.

### Postage Rates

Correspondence may be addressed direct to personnel of Indian formations serving in the Middle East (including Iraq and Persia), Ceylon, etc., once the addressee overseas has informed his correspondents in India of his exact address. Details regarding his army number, rank, initials and name and unit (or appointment, if at a formation headquarters) should as usual be given.

Correspondence for service personnel who have not gone overseas as part of an Indian formation or to join an Indian formation should be addressed direct as indicated by the soldier concerned himself, with details of rank, name, unit and destination. Such correspondence is liable to be delayed if addressed care of the Base Postal Depot or Base Air Post Depot.

Postage on postcards, letters and parcels for personnel of the Army in India who have proceeded overseas from India is charged at inland rates. Full foreign rates of postage are, however, charged on mails for personnel not belonging to the Army in India. Where a letter or postcard is despatched by a service man entitled to free surface postage, no charge is payable, but the article should be properly franked.

### Air Mail Correspondence

With regard to air mail correspondence, the charge for a postcard to Ceylon is 1 anna 3 pies and that for a letter not exceeding one tola 2½ annas. For other countries the air mail postage is 4 annas per postcard and 8 annas per letter not exceeding half an ounce in weight.

Parcels cannot be sent by air mail and in no case can a parcel exceeding 22 lbs. be transmitted. Nor can letters and parcels be insured or despatched by V.P. post.

## RENEWAL OF LOST P. O. CASH CERTIFICATES

A number of holders of Post Office Cash Certificates are not aware of the procedure for obtaining a renewal of certificates which have been lost or destroyed.

Under Rule 10 of Section VII of the Indian Post and Telegraph Guide, if a Cash Certificate is lost or destroyed, the investor will be entitled to a declaration from the Postal Audit Office on furnishing a statement in writing to the post office in which it is at the time registered giving particulars of the Cash Certificate and explaining how it was lost or destroyed. This declaration, for which a small fee is charged, will be treated as equivalent to the original Cash Certificate for all practical purposes.

## NOMINATED TO CENTRAL LEGISLATURE

His Excellency the Governor-General has decided to nominate the Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman, the Hon'ble Sir J. P. Srivastava and the Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh to the Council of State; and the Hon'ble Sir Edward Benthall and the Hon'ble Dr. B. R. Ambedkar to the Legislative Assembly. He has also decided to transfer the Hon'ble Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon to the Legislative Assembly and to appoint the Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman to be Leader of the Council of State.



# BURMA NOTIFICATIONS

**Burma Notes** Burma Notes were encashed at all branches of the Imperial Bank throughout India till July 14, 1942, but to prevent the possibility of their being smuggled into India by enemy agents, it was decided to restrict their encashment from July 15, 1942, only to genuine refugees at certain specified places in Assam apart from the offices of the Reserve Bank at Calcutta, Cawnpore and Madras. All persons holding Burma notes were, therefore, advised in the Finance Department Press communique dated June 20, 1942, and reminded in a subsequent Press communique, dated June 20, 1942, to make certain to encash their holdings before July 15, 1942.

In view of the reasonable notice which has already been given to all genuine holders in India for the encashment of Burma notes and to obviate the risk of notes coming through undesirable channels, it has been decided, in the interest of public safety, that after August 31, 1942, Burma notes will not be accepted for encashment anywhere in India unless the possession of such notes has been duly vouched for by a responsible Police Officer of the status of District Superintendent or a District Officer. Arrangements have been made for the encashment of such notes as may be brought in by genuine evacuees from Burma after that date.

## Securities

The delivery of Government of India Promissory Notes and Stock Certificates purchased through Burma Post Office savings bank accounts and held in the custody of the Accountant-General, Posts and Telegraphs, may be made through any Indian Post Office convenient to the investor provided that the safe custody receipt granted to him is surrendered in advance and his identity established by a Magistrate's certificate or by a respectable citizen known to the postmaster concerned.

A similar procedure may be followed for the sale or discharge of the securities and, if investors desire to close the savings bank accounts through which they were purchased, they may avail themselves of the procedure laid down for the closing of savings bank accounts in Burma, Malaya or Singapore post offices at Imperial post offices in India by submitting pass-books relating to the accounts and satisfying the postal authorities as to their identity.

## Registration Of Evacuees

With certain exceptions European British subjects who have arrived in India from Burma, Malaya, Hongkong, Singapore or any other territory east of India or who have arrived in India since December 8, 1941, in transfer to any of these territories are now required to register under the European British Evacuees Order, 1942, published in the *Gazette of India* dated July 18, 1942.

The order applies firstly to all women who have come from any of these countries and who are the wives or unmarried daughters of European British subjects and secondly to any male European British evacuee who is 50 years or more and is not serving in any unit of His Majesty's Forces. These two classes of European evacuees must register with the nearest District Magistrate or Commissioner of Police or,

if they are in an Indian State, with the nearest Resident or Political Officer.

Registration must be effected before August 1, 1942, or, in the case of an evacuee who arrived in India after July 18, 1942, within 14 days of his or her arrival in India. Registration forms may be obtained on application from the District Magistrate, the Commissioner of Police or Political Officer as the case may be. The penalty for failing to register is fine which may amount to Rs. 100.

For the purposes of the Registration Order, a European British subject is any British subject of European descent in the male line born, naturalised or domiciled in the United Kingdom or in any of the Dominions or Colonies except Ceylon.

## Examinations

It is understood that among the evacuee students from Burma now in India, there are a considerable number who by reason of their late arrival from Burma or from sickness and exhaustion following the journey, found themselves unable to sit for the Burma examinations that were held in the week commencing August 3, 1942. In order to mitigate the hardship caused to such students, the Government of Burma and the Rangoon University in consultation with the Department of Indians Overseas have now decided to hold the Supplementary H.S.F., B.A. (Pass) and

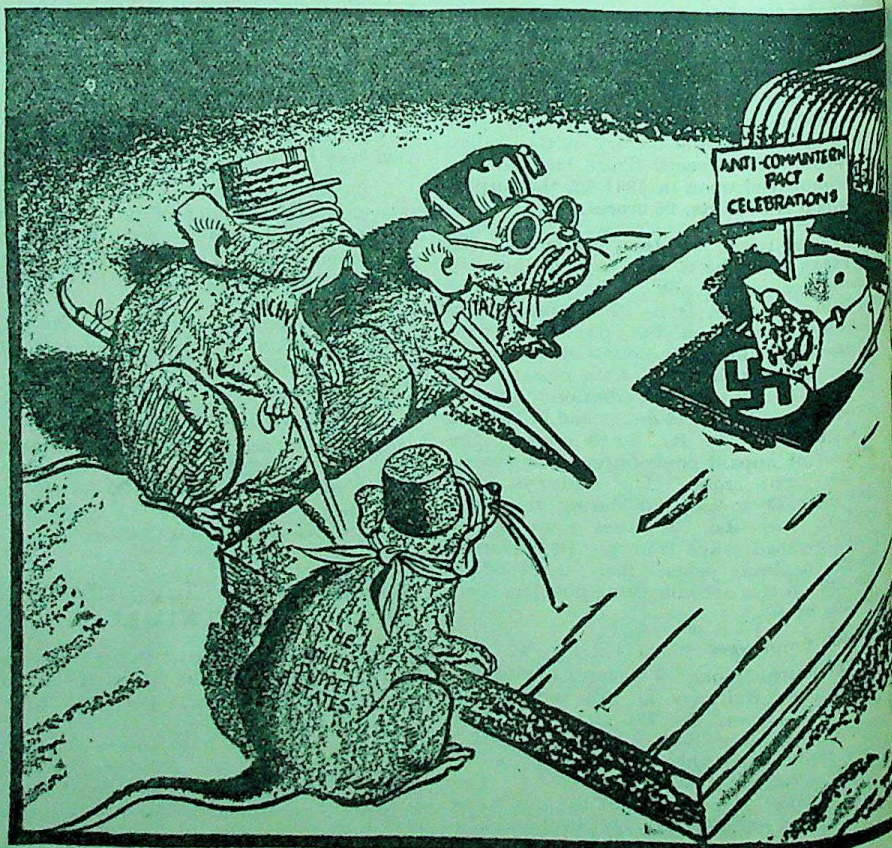
B.Sc. (Pass) examinations in India in the week commencing on January 11, 1943. Those who fail to get through the examinations already held will also be allowed to appear for the Supplementary Examination.

All intending candidates are invited to register themselves with Administrative Officer, University of Rangoon, at present at Grand Hotel, Simla, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

## For Evacuee Welfare

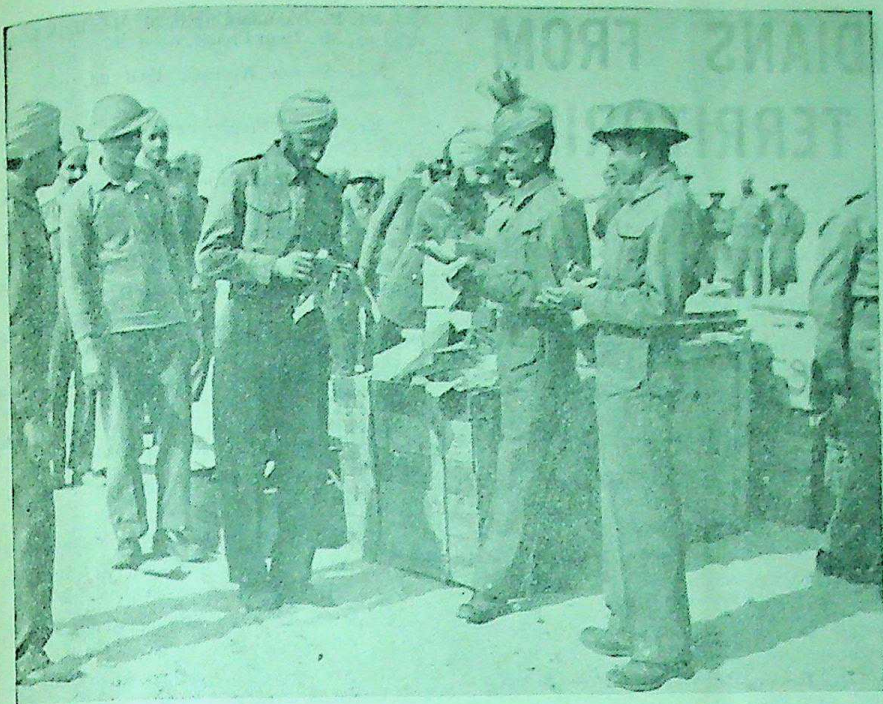
His Excellency the Governor of Burma has appointed Mr. L. M. Lees, I.C.S. as Special Officer for Evacuee Welfare, to maintain contact with evacuees from Burma to act in liaison with evacuee relief organisations and to keep the Government of Burma in touch with the problems of evacuees generally.

His Excellency has also appointed Mr. J. M. G. Fann, I.C.S. as Special Officer for Burma, South India. He will receive and examine claims from evacuated Government servants in South India to see that they are complete and correct and will ordinarily forward them to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma. In emergent cases he will make such payments as appear to him to be essential for the maintenance of applicants and their families. Mr. Fann will also receive claims and applications from, and give advice to, non-officials who wish to take advantage of having a Burma Officer near at hand.



THREE BLIND MICE





GIFTS, INCLUDING WOOLLEN GOODS, ARE DISTRIBUTED TO INDIAN TROOPS IN WESTERN DESERT

## COMFORTS AND AMENITIES FOR TROOPS

### Governor Of Madras Appeals For Funds

"From the deserts of Egypt to the jungle-clad hills of Assam, down the long length of this Presidency and far and wide over the waters of the Indian Ocean, Madras units take their place side by side with their comrades from Northern India and from other parts of our Commonwealth, and are rendering magnificent service in this war for the defence of civilization and the common liberties of mankind."

Thus stated His Excellency the Governor of Madras in a broadcast from the Madras Station of A.I.R., appealing for contributions for the provision of comforts and amenities for the fighting forces. His Excellency said, "It is our duty to see that the lives of such brave soldiers are made as comfortable as their circumstances permit." His Excellency indicated that money was required not only for providing comforts to Madras units stationed or fighting elsewhere; but it was also required for men who had come from far away homes in Northern India and from across the seas and were stationed in the Madras Presidency to defend India and "to see that any invader who attempts to set foot on these shores is given a hot reception."

#### Comforts For Troops

His Excellency gave a detailed account of what the Comforts Fund has so far accomplished. Grants have been given from the Fund to a number of organisations which were directly engaged in organising and providing amenities and comforts to the troops. His Excellency made particular mention of the mobile canteens which were taken out by Madras Ladies to the Indian troops in the villages round about Madras, who had no access to shops and no means of supplying their needs.

The Governor also referred to the work of the Joint War Charities Depot,



H. E. SIR ARTHUR HOPE

which was working among the troops in Madras, organising circulating libraries, providing wireless sets and gramophones and meeting unflinching all sorts of demands coming in—for cricket and tennis equipment, for music and songs and on one occasion for a portable boxing ring!

#### An Appeal

Appealing for further funds, His Excellency said: "Remember, these forces are your protection. They stand between you and the horrors of Nazi or Japanese domination; they are the defenders not only of your political liberties but of your personal liberties, your right to follow your

own way of life and your own religion, to educate your children, to obtain justice in the courts, to live as freemen and not as slaves, all these benefits of which a Nazi victory would deprive you. Surely those who are ready to lay down their lives for the sake of you and your children deserve all the comforts and friendly gifts which it is in your power to give them."

## RS. 38 LAKHS SPENT ON PROVISION OF AMENITIES

At the end of March 1942, it was decided to close the unofficial Amenities for Troops Fund, which had done excellent work in providing comforts and welfare for our fighting forces overseas and in India during the last two years. Its place was taken up by a new Official Fund known as the Amenities, Comforts and Entertainments for the Services (A.C.E.S.) Fund under the control of the Adjutant-General in India.

The final accounts of the unofficial Fund have now been audited and found correct. Subscribers will be interested to know what (in round figures) this Fund has accomplished during the two years of its active existence. Its total income was Rs. 41½ lakhs, of which over Rs. 30 lakhs were specifically subscribed by Provinces, States and members of the public. Over Rs. 7½ lakhs were granted by His Excellency the Viceroy from his War Purposes Fund. Rs. 3½ lakhs were realised from the sale of knitting wool.

Expenditure totalled just over Rs. 38 lakhs, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 3½ lakhs.

#### Wool For Work-Parties

Of this closing balance, Rs. 1½ lakhs have been made over to the Official Fund in order to meet, with a margin, all unspent donations which were earmarked for special purposes. The remainder, nearly Rs. 1½ lakhs, has been granted to the Unofficial Central Woollen Comforts Fund Committee, which has been created to continue the wholesale purchase and distribution of knitting wool to work-parties and the collection of finished articles from them, for issue to the Armed Forces of India serving in cold climates, mainly overseas.

Of the total expenditure, Rs. 19 lakhs were spent in cash for stores institutes and mobile canteens for troops overseas. Rs. 5 lakhs were devoted to the purchase of knitting wool for work-parties. A sum of Rs. 13½ lakhs was mainly spent on institutes, radio sets, sports and games for troops in India.

The Unofficial Committee was also instrumental in collecting and sending overseas, in 1941 Christmas, presents for all troops based on India, at a total cost of about Rs. 6½ lakhs of which the Committee contributed one-fifth.

The Committee's administrative expenses, which came to Rs. 46,000, constitute barely one per cent of its disbursements.

## PUNJAB WAR SUPPLIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Following the abolition of the post of Joint Chief Secretary, Government of the Punjab, the Government of India have decided, in consultation with the Punjab Government, to appoint the Financial Commissioner, Revenue, Punjab, as Chairman of the Provincial Advisory Committee for War Supplies. In consequence, Mr. J. D. Anderson, formerly Joint Chief Secretary and now Financial Commissioner Revenue, remains Chairman of the Provincial Advisory Committee for War Supplies.



# RETURN OF INDIANS FROM JAP-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

Information has been received that the following Indians are now on their way back from Japanese-occupied territories to India. They are said to be enjoying a pleasant voyage in satisfactory conditions. It is not possible at present to give any information as to the date when these persons may be expected to arrive in India.

## Officials

Major Himatsinhji, First Secretary, British Embassy, Tokyo.

Mr. Krishnamoorthy, Indian Government Trade Commissioner, Japan.

Messrs. Eling and Sen, Members of Trade Commissioner's Staff.

Bhagwat Singh—Major Himatsinhji's servant.

## Non-Officials

Mr. Singh, aged 55, Mr. Dulla Singh, aged 45.

Mrs. Dalit Kaur and daughters, Miss Gurcharan Kaur and Miss Bibi.

Mr. P. Daulatram, aged 33.

Mrs. P. Lekhray, aged 36, and sons R. Lekhray and G. Lekhray.

Mr. N. Dingomal, aged 33.

Miss Z. A. Karanjia.

Mr. Chunilal, aged 56, Mr. Gurbax Singh, aged 45.

Mrs. Gurnainkaur, aged 38, and son Amar-singh, Mr. Ujagar Singh.

Mr. R. S. Sahgal, aged 26, Mr. Habib Mohammed, aged 40.

Mr. R. A. Sheth, aged 30, Mr. M. S. Dave, aged 26.

Mr. C. R. Donghani, aged 25, Mr. Kaimdin, aged 60.

Mr. Pala Singh, aged 55, Mr. R. G. Mahra, aged 26.

Mr. Hotchand Chullaram, aged 40, Mr. Abdul Rasaaq, aged 32.

Mr. S. S. Smart, aged 23, Mr. M. J. Akbani, aged 40.

Mr. T. Adamji, aged 35, Mr. N. R. Swansi, aged 35.

Mr. G. D. Khemchand, aged 28, Mr. Kishan Singh, aged 50.

Mr. I. K. Pathan, aged 40.

Mrs. Nazar Singh with two children.

Mr. Kartar Singh, aged 41, Mrs. Basant Kaur, aged 34, with two children.

Mr. J. D. Koohar, aged 25, Mr. Kiroda Singh, aged 52.

Mr. R. B. Melwani, aged 23, Mr. Kaem Singh, aged 34.

Miss M. S. Talato, aged 24, Miss R. R. Viccajee, aged 31.

Mr. Puran Singh, aged 34, Mr. Budh Singh, aged 41.

Mr. M. G. Warrior, aged 34, Mr. I. V. Warrior, aged 34, Mrs. Hari Singh, aged 43.

Mr. Santokh Singh, aged 43, Mr. Natha Singh, aged 46.

Mr. Bata Singh, aged 35, Mr. R. F. B. Chandha, aged 32.

Mrs. Chanda, aged 28, with four children.

Mr. Bhagat Singh, aged 50, Mr. R. K. Santani, aged 27.

Mr. L. J. Santani, aged 28, Mr. J. B. Sanmukhani, aged 36.

Mr. P. Tikandan, aged 26, Mr. Mali Singh, aged 35, Mr. Ram Chand, aged 26.

Mrs. Shanta Kumari, aged 23, with two children.

Mr. Wazir Singh, aged 32, Mr. Chanan Singh, aged 41.

Mr. Atta Mohammed, aged 30, Mr. Ujagar Singh, aged 42.

Mrs. K. J. Mehta, aged 26, with two sons.

Mr. Dalip Singh, aged 32, Mrs. M. Dalip Singh, aged 26, and two daughters.

Mr. Phulindar Singh, aged 39, Mr. Charat Singh, aged 45.

Mr. Rata Singh, aged 52, Mr. Harjmandar Singh, aged 50.

Mr. B. D. Charna, aged 37, Mr. Ganda Singh, aged 50, Mr. K. R. Malkhani, aged 25.

Mr. Shansingh Dhanasingh, aged 44, Mr. Kishen Singh, aged 40.

Mr. Hira Singh, aged 54, Assa Singh, aged 52.

Mr. U. A. Mohanani, aged 21, Mr. Hira Singh, aged 42, Mr. Maghar Singh, aged 58.

Mr. Banta Singh, s/o Phuman Singh, aged 30, Mr. Bir Singh, aged 53.

Mr. Nrajam Singh, aged 60, Mr. Chirag Din, s/o Chanan Shah, aged 32.

Mr. Hari Singh, aged 54, Mr. Nan, Mr. Thakar Singh, aged 50.

Mr. Rahman Khan, aged 48, Mr. D. A. Kamdar, aged 33, Mr. D. N. Japir, aged 53.

Mr. K. J. Mahta, aged 44, Mr. Tolaram Detaram, aged 45, Mr. H. P. Vavunia, aged 39, Mr. P. Parasram, aged 49, Mrs. J. Parasram, aged 40, with seven children.

## CAUCASUS—RUSSIA'S OIL LAND

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 264]

machinery of the Rostov "Rosselmach" combine, and grain that in the morning stood in the field "on root," in the course of one day is cut, threshed, carried in lorries to the nearest railway station, where it is mechanically loaded into railway trucks that leave the same evening.

The main export port is Novorossisk, which is also a naval base and exports cement, made throughout the Novorossisk area (30 per cent of the U.S.S.R.'s cement output). Novorossisk has huge elevators into which the grain is stored and from there it is loaded, again mechanically by chutes, right into the holds of steamers.

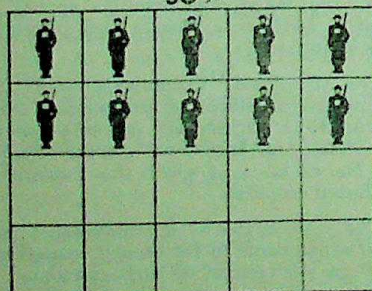
### The "Stalin Farm"

The "Stalin" collective farm near Armavir is another huge combine, which handles not only grain, but cattle and even grapes. The oilfields of Krasnodar and Maikop will be dealt with later. The population of this area (6,000,000) is mostly Cossacks, whereas the Northern Caucasian area and the trans-Caucasian area include a dozen autonomous republics of hill peoples, famous in history for their daring and courage, such as: Ossetin, Cherkess, Checheno-Ingush, Nakhichevan, Georgian (3,000,000 pop.), Azerbaidjan (3,000,000 pop.) and Armenian (1,000,000). Although greatly divided in local interests, they are now far more united than before due mainly to the two five-year plans, which have enormously increased their industries and consequently the trade of the Caucasus. Thanks also to the exploitation of numerous hill waterfalls, cheap electric power has become available, so that in some places industrial output is now 25 times what it was in 1913, but much of the folk home industry, like laborious silver-inlaid steel-work, had to give way to cheaper mass products.

## BRITISH COMMONWEALTH CASUALTIES IN LIBYA—November 1941—July 1942

United Kingdom Troops

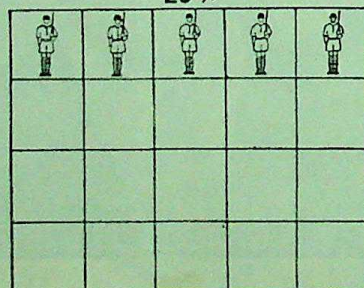
50 %



Each figure represents

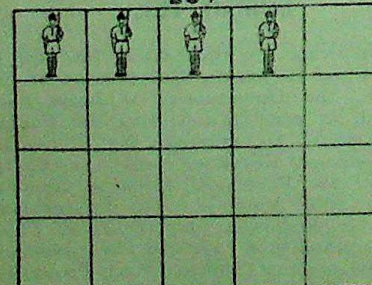
South African Troops

25 %



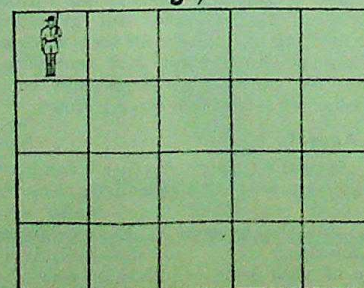
Indian Troops

20 %



N.Z., Australian, Fighting French & Colonial Troops

5 %







SIR SIKANDAR HYAT KHAN, PUNJAB PREMIER (CENTRE), WITH MR. CHURCHILL (LEFT) AND GENERAL WAVELL AT CAIRO

## INDIANS OVERSEAS EVACUATION RELIEF FUND ESTABLISHED

### SIR SIKANDAR MEETS MR. CHURCHILL

Lieut.-Colonel the Hon'ble Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan, Premier of the Punjab, who is visiting Indian troops in the Middle East, had a long conversation with Mr. Winston Churchill, British Prime Minister, and other distinguished Empire personalities.

### CHINESE GENERAL'S GIFT

With feelings of sorrow and anger Lieut.-General L. J. Sun, 42-year-old commander of a Chinese force in Burma, watched Indian refugees fleeing before the Japanese terror.

In his native China the General had seen so many similar tragedies; this spectacle in Burma of so much suffering and loss revived bitter memories of the past.

The time for retribution would come, but meanwhile the refugees had to be fed and clothed. On that very day a cash gift of Rs. 3,000 was on its way to the Governor of Assam for the relief of suffering among the refugees—a soldier's effort to alleviate the tragedy which had befallen a neighbouring people.

In his letter of acknowledgment, the Governor of Assam spoke of the gift as a "token of sympathy sent on behalf of those who are engaged with us in a great struggle against the aggressor responsible for these hardships."

Provincial Governments, Local Administrations and public charities have contributed most generously to the relief of refugees and evacuees who have arrived in India, and have done much to meet their immediate needs. But the circumstances in which they have left their houses outside India are such that assistance will continue to be needed for some time to come, though, it is to be hoped, on a diminishing scale. A special fund known as the Indians Overseas Evacuation Relief Fund has therefore been set up by the Indians Overseas Department of the Government of India, with the aid of a grant of Rs. 5 lakhs from the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, for the purpose of affording assistance to non-official organisations engaged in relief work to evacuees. Applications for grants from this Fund should be submitted through the Provincial Government or Local Administration concerned and should be accompanied by a statement of the work done and an estimate, with information in support of probable requirements.

The grants that have so far been made from or through the Indians Overseas Evacuation Relief Fund include Rs. 10,000 to the Marwari Relief Society and a like amount to the Governor of Orissa, and a

sum of Rs. 1½ lakhs for the supply of immediate needs of evacuees arriving on foot in the Assam border, e.g., clothing, boots and shoes, waterproofs, mosquito-nets, etc., of which considerable quantities were dropped from the air. Smaller grants have also been made direct from the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund for the provision of amenities and necessities for evacuees who are accommodated in camps in Mount Abu and in Bharatpur State.

### CLAIMS OF QUASI-GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES FROM MALAYA

In addition to his other duties, the Malayan Representative in India, through his offices in Bangalore and Bombay, will also endeavour to assist quasi-Government employees from Malaya and dependants in India of quasi-Government employees stranded in Malaya, by obtaining the orders of the Colonial Office on any claims that may be referred to him.

As regards Defence personnel, he will only deal with claims in respect of officers and men who were on the Malayan Establishment and were paid from Malayan funds, such as the Malay Regiment, Malayan Volunteers, Local Defence Corps and Police.



# WAR FUNDS

## VICEROY'S WAR PURPOSES FUND

**D**uring the fortnight ended July 31, 1942, a sum of Rs. 1,00,000 was given in India by His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund to the Central Joint War Committee of the Indian Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Association. During the same period the Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department, received Rs. 10,000 for the relief of sufferings of Indian Seamen at Karachi, Madras and Bombay.

Payments overseas included £10,150 for the purchase of aircraft for Royal Air Force, £330 to the Lord Mayor of London's Air Raid Victims Fund and £400 to the British Red Cross Society.

### Total Collections

Total collections in the Fund up to July 31, 1942, amounted to Rs. 7,17,11,000, including interest realised on investments of cash balances. There was thus an increase of Rs. 4,11,000 during the period.

Total payments in India and overseas aggregated Rs. 6,17,61,893. Payments during the fortnight amounted to Rs. 2,57,733.

H. H. the Maharaja of Sikkim, who has already surrendered a whole year's interest on Government securities held by the State, as contribution to H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, has now donated another year's interest amounting to over Rs. 40,000.

### ST. DUNSTAN'S SECTION

The total of the St. Dunstan's Section of H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund is Rs. 7,77,674-13-8 plus £263-2-1.

### THE THIRD DEFENCE LOAN

Subscriptions to the Third Defence Loan for the week ending August 15, 1942, amounted to Rs. 81,38,100.

The total amount subscribed to the Interest-free Defence Bonds up to August 15, 1942, was Rs. 2,98,38,000, and to the 3 per cent Defence Loans (including previous issues) Rs. 1,09,26,85,000. Reports on subscriptions to the Post Office Ten-Year Defence Savings Certificates have not been received from all centres and the total

subscriptions up to August 8, 1942, were Rs. 5,76,21,000 after taking belated reports into account.

The grand total of subscriptions to all Indian Defence Loans since they were first issued in June 1940 up to the dates given above is Rs. 1,18,01,44,000.

The total amount subscribed to the Interest-free Defence Bonds up to August 8, 1942, was Rs. 2,98,09,000; to the 3 per cent Defence Loans (including previous issues) Rs. 1,08,45,46,000; and to the Post Office Ten-Year Defence Savings Certificates Rs. 5,75,00,000.

The grand total of subscriptions to all Indian Defence Loans since they were first issued in June 1940 up to August 8, 1942, is Rs. 1,17,18,55,000.

### DEFENCE SAVINGS CERTIFICATES

By an amendment to the Post Office Ten-Year Defence Savings Certificates Rules, Local Bodies, such as Municipalities, Notified Area Committees, Small Town Committees and District Boards, are permitted to hold Defence Savings Certificates up to a limit of Rs. 20,000.

## WAR LOAN INVESTMENTS

Here is a statement showing the amounts subscribed by each of the 11 Provinces, and by the Indian States and Centrally-Administered areas, to the Indian Defence Loans, in June, 1942, together with progressive totals for each Province, etc :—

STATISTICS OF DEFENCE LOANS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 1942 (IN THOUSANDS).

Area	3% Defence Loans	Interest Free Bonds		Defence Savings Certificates				Defence Savings Bank		Grand Total
	Total subscription up to the date of closing the 3% Loan 1949-52 (2nd Defence Loan)	Subscription for June 1942 (Preliminary)	Progressive total to end of the month	Sales during June 1942 (Preliminary)	Encashments during the month	Net sales for the month	Progressive (net) total to end of the month	Deposit during June 1942 (Preliminary)	Progressive total to end of the month	Total of columns (2), (4), (8) and (10)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Bengal ..	40,74.14	6	38.83	1.53	1.14	39	78.16	21	1.77	41,92.90
Bombay ..	37,55.66	38	1,22.84	2.57	1.00	1.57	80.68	38	2.39	39,61.57
Punjab ..	5,10.84	89	16.58	2.35	64	1.71	57.07	47	2.84	5,87.33
U. P. ..	4,38.96	30	10.90	2.16	1.70	46	66.57	37	2.81	5,19.24
Madras ..	4,21.98	2	5.53	1.47	38	1.09	31.26	30	79	4,59.56
Sind ..	1,30.56	33	3.34	51	18	33	14.74	6	61	1,49.25
Bihar ..	90.47	†	5.55	44	52	—8	33.99	9	51	1,30.52
Delhi ..	72.00	†	2.05	18	6	12	7.44	5	29	81.78
C. P. and Berar ..	30.00	†	1.38	58	28	30	20.51	7	40	52.29
N.-W. F. P. ..	23.74	†	1.30	27	11	16	6.33	2	21	31.53
Orissa ..	27.35	†	6	14	4	10	3.52	†	4	30.97
Baluchistan ..	17.04	†	57	13	14	—1	3.55	27	27	21.43
Assam ..	11.03	†	20	20	6	14	7.44	2	27	18.94
Ajmer-Merwara ..	8.94	1	18	9	7	2	1.57	†	3	10.72
Coorg ..	2	..	..	†	†	†	15	†	†	17
Indian States and other Central Treasuries ..	2,57.99	76	67.75	1.17	66	51	35.69	7	1.11	3,62.54
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>98,70.72</b>	<b>2.75</b>	<b>2,77.06*</b>	<b>13.79</b>	<b>6.97</b>	<b>6.82</b>	<b>4,48.67*</b>	<b>2.38</b>	<b>14.34*</b>	<b>1,06,10.79*</b>

† Subscription less than Rs. 500.

\* Includes subsequent adjustments of previous preliminary figures.



## PERSONALITIES

### Who's Who In National Defence Council—



DR. SIR KAMESHWARA SINGH

### MAHARAJADHIRAJA OF DARBHANGA

**B**uilder of modern Darbhanga, Hony. Colonel the Honourable Dr. Sir Kameshwara Singh, K.C.I.E., LL.D., D.Litt., Maharajadhiraja of Darbhanga, was born on November 28, 1907, and educated privately at home under the supervision of the late Miss Lilian Edgar. He succeeded his father, the Honourable Maharajadhiraja Sir Rameshwara Singh Bahadur, G.C.I.E., K.B.E., D.Litt., in 1929.

The Maharajadhiraja, who is keenly interested in problems concerning landholders and Indian political developments, went to London in 1930 and 1931 as a delegate to the two sessions of the Indian Round Table Conference. He was twice nominated as a member of the Council of State and was elected to the same House in 1937.

Dr. Sir Kameshwara Singh is the head of the Maithila Brahmans in India and is connected with a number of public institutions in the country. He is the President of the All-India Landholders' Federation and of the Bengal Landholders' Association, Life President of the Maithila Mahasabha and General President of Sri Bharat Dharma Mahamandal.

#### Honoured By Two Universities

The Maharajadhiraja is also associated with many educational bodies. He was twice elected Pro-Chancellor of the Benares Hindu University, of which he is Vice-Patron. He is Life Member of the Courts of the Allahabad and Benares Hindu Universities and of the Empire Parliamentary Association, Vice-Patron of the Bihar and Orissa Research Society and the Academy of Fine Arts, India, and member of the East India Association. He was nominated three times as President of the Bihar Sanskrit Association and served as President of the Bihar Sanskrit Reorganisation Committee. The Benares Hindu Uni-

versity conferred on him the D.Litt. degree in 1937, and the Allahabad University the degree of LL.D.

Sir Kameshwara Singh is Vice-President of the Bihar Provincial War Board, President of the King George V Anti-Tuberculosis Association, Bihar, Patron of the Bihar Flying Club, and was President of the British Indian Association in 1941. He was appointed a member of the National Defence Council in 1941.

#### War Effort

Immediately on the outbreak of war, the Maharajadhiraja pledged his unqualified support to the war effort, and made contributions to various funds connected with the war.

Besides the sum of Rs. 1,00,000 which Sir Kameshwara Singh donated to His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund soon after the outbreak of World War II, he presented a dozen ambulances to His Majesty the King-Emperor on the occasion of his official birthday in 1940 at a cost of Rs. 50,000; donated Rs. 10,000 for the construction of an Institute for the officers of the British Regiment at Ranchi; Rs. 4,000 for the Red Cross and St. John's Fund and Rs. 1,000 for the St. Dunstan's Fund; Rs. 5,000 each for amenities for Hindu and Sikh soldiers serving overseas on the occasion of the Dasara festival and King George's Fund for Sailors.

The Maharajadhiraja's other contributions to the war effort include the presentation of a Publicity Van to the Darbhanga War Board, and donation of funds for the purchase of three fighter planes, two for the R. A. F. to be designated "Sirkar-I-Tirhut 1" and "Sirkar-I-Tirhut 3," and the third for the Indian Air Force to be called "Sirkar-I-Tirhut 2". He also placed a sum of £15,000 at the disposal of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress in the name of the late Maharani Adhirani Kameswar Priya Sahiba.

The Maharajadhiraja was created a K.C.I.E. in 1933, and was appointed Honorary Colonel of the 11th Battalion of the 19th Hyderabad Regiment in 1940, and Honorary Colonel of the Bihar Regiment in 1941.



#### MR. A. W. H. DEAN

On the retirement, at the end of August, of Sardar Bahadur Sir Teja Singh Malik, C.I.E., from the post of Chief Engineer, Central Public Works Department, it was decided that Mr. A. W. H. Dean, C.I.E., M.C., Additional Chief Engineer and the seniormost officer in the cadre of Central P.W.D., should be appointed to the post of Chief Engineer.

It was also decided that Khan Bahadur Muhammad Sulaiman, Superintending Engineer, should be appointed to the post of Additional Chief Engineer vacated by Mr. Dean.



Messrs. J. R. Stapleton, lately Station Director, All-India Radio, Calcutta, and Kazi Nazrul Islam, Chief Editor, *The Navajug*, have been appointed members of the Advisory Committee of the Calcutta Station of All-India Radio vice Messrs. N. Barwell and B. K. Roy Choudhuri, respectively.



H. R. H. THE DUKE OF KENT

### DEATH OF H. R. H. THE DUKE OF KENT

Indian Information "deeply regrets to record the death of Air Commodore His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent in a flying accident on Tuesday, August 25, 1942.

His Royal Highness was proceeding to Iceland on duty in a Sunderland flying-boat on Tuesday afternoon when the plane crashed in the north of Scotland.

Like his father, the late King George the Fifth, the Duke of Kent's earliest associations were with the Royal Navy, which he entered at the age of 14, and in which he became a midshipman in 1921. He was appointed to H.M.S. *Nelson* in 1927 and to the *Durban* in 1928. In 1939 he was raised to the rank of Rear-Admiral, and also became a Major-General in the Army and Air Vice-Marshal in the Royal Air Force.

With the Prince of Wales, his brother, he left London in January 1931 for a visit to South America and visited the Union of South Africa in 1934. After his return he married Princess Marina of Greece in November, and their first son, Prince Edward, was born a year later.

Last year the Duke visited Canada where he inspected the Empire Air Training Scheme, and won the hearts of the Canadians. He was the Governor-General-Designate for Australia just before the war broke out. Each of the four great Dominions felt attached to him by bonds of personal affection, and by his death the Empire has lost a very charming and popular member of the Royal Family.



# ON THE A. I. R.

## F. W. BUSTIN FROM LAHORE : " UNITED NATIONS DAY " :-

The world needs the reassurance which comes from congregational observance of the fact that a war which has made such strange bedfellows as shopkeeping Britain, capitalist America and Communist—it used to be "Red" or worse—Russia has a purpose which even the 1914-18 struggle never claimed. It is the hope and the faith of the United Nations that they are waging war for an even greater purpose than ending war; their resolve now is not only the creation of peace in a war-weary world; it goes further: it aims at the establishment of conditions in which the blessings of that peace may be shared by the greatest number of this world's inhabitants.

It is the non-Axis world's hope that the nations of the earth may emerge from the shadow of the threat of a military, economic and racial tyranny such as has never been known to a freedom not only from fear of the physical dangers of war but from the gnawing anxieties of pre-war peace. We are now struggling for a new deal for the under-dog. And it is perhaps well that periodically we should pause in our everyday vocations in order to say a fervent Amen to the millions of spoken and unspoken prayers in which such hopes find expression.



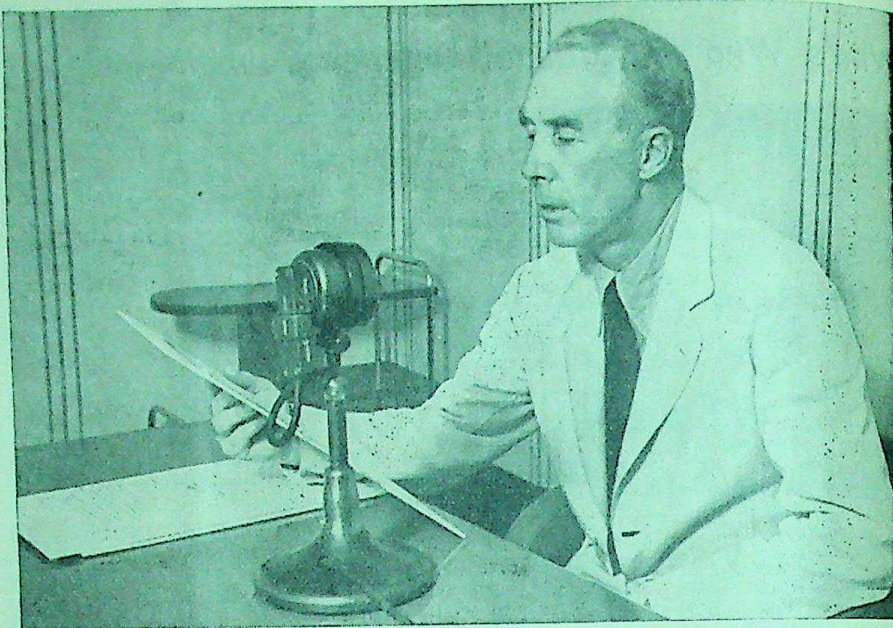
## Mary Dyson from Madras : "Women's Auxiliary Corps" :-

Not only in Madras, but in the whole of India there is the problem of intelligent, educated girls who are anxious to join the Women's Auxiliary Corps (I) but, because they have no clerical or technical training, cannot be taken except in very small numbers. I have had to disappoint so many, and that, I am sure, has been the experience of all Platoon Commanders throughout India. The problem is being faced, and we hope there may be facilities for training later. It must be remembered that the Corps is in its infancy—only a few months old—we cannot expect it to have sprung 'full-armed' from the brow of the General staff. The time will come, and sooner probably than we think, when these girls, anxious to pull their weight, will be needed. Their patience will be the measure of their desire to help.



## Lt.-Col. S. S. Sokhey from Bombay : "Bombay Blood Bank" :-

The process of donating blood is simplicity itself. On the appointed date and time the donor goes to one of the donating centres. The centres keep their appointments to the minute. He is received and necessary entries are made. He is then carefully medically examined to determine that he is fit to donate blood. It is seen that the donor is not anæmic, has good blood pressure, and is free from lung and heart troubles. Then the donor lies down on a high couch. The doctor applies the blood pressure instrument to the left (or right) arm of the donor to take blood pressure, and to make the veins of the arm stand out. A suitable vein at the bend of the elbow is selected. The skin over the vein is sterilized and a carefully sterilized needle is inserted into the vein. The needle is connected to a bottle through a rubber tube. The blood now flows into the bottle and the bottle is so placed that



H. E. Sir George Cunningham, Governor of N.-W. F. P., recently opened the new Peshawar station of A.I.R. His Excellency delivered the inaugural broadcast

the donor does not see the blood. While the blood is flowing a watch is kept over the donor's blood pressure. In about 10 minutes' time about  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint of blood is collected and the needle removed from the vein. The skin is cleaned again and a small piece of cotton is stuck on the skin puncture with a little collodion. The donor now leaves the table and is given a suitable drink, lemonade, tea, coffee or milk as he desires.

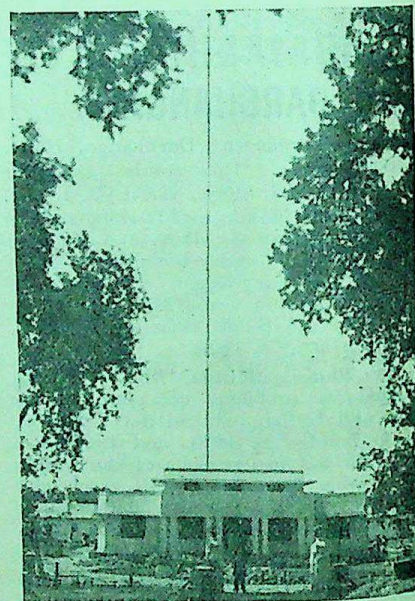


## Dr. H. L. Dey from Dacca : "America's All-Out Effort—The Industrial Giant on the Move" :-

In the last 33 months of the war, America's international policy has passed through three distinct stages: with the outbreak of the war in the autumn of 1939, the United States Congress adopted the Neutrality Act which, with effect from November 4, 1939, barred American ships, as well as American citizens, from journeys within certain combat zones.

From that date up to March, 1941, the United States sold large quantities of metals, machinery and tools, motor vehicles and aircraft, merchant vessels, firearms, ammunition, explosives and other non-agricultural and agricultural products needed by the British Empire, Latin America, China and other Allied and associated nations, on a strict cash and carry basis.

In March, 1941, Congress, at the instance of the President, passed the Lease-Lend Act, which is perhaps the most far-reaching measure adopted by that country during the present war and by which the U.S.A., with unexampled courage, assumed the responsibility of sending all-out aid to all the Allied and associated nations that are ranged solidly on the side of democracy and freedom. By this momentous step, the U.S.A. took upon itself the leadership of the United Nations in this world-wide struggle for the re-establishment of the decencies of civilized life. This stage also covers the summer of 1941 when, with



PESHAWAR TRANSMITTER BUILDING WITH THE 350-FOOT SELF-RADIATING MAST

Japan's penetration into the South-west Pacific, specially Indo-China and Thailand, the Far Eastern situation became grave and economic relationships with Japan and Japanese-occupied territories were broken off by the freezing orders.

The third and the final stage came on December 8, 1941, when the U.S.A. declared war on Japan, Germany and Italy and all the divergent parties and groups, Democrats and Republicans, Capital and Labour, Interventionists and Isolationists, were at once united in a grim and fixed determination to pledge that country's incomparable resources and her entire manpower in defence of democracy throughout the world.

INDIAN INFORMATION, OCTOBER 1, 1941



## WEIGHTS, MEASURES—COINAGE—GLOSSARY—POINTS ABOUT INDIA

### WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Weights and measures in India vary not only from district to district but also for different commodities.

The principal units in all the scales of weights are the maund, seer and tola, and the standard weights for each of these are 82.28 lbs., 2.057 lbs. and 180 grains troy respectively.

The Indian tola is the same weight as the rupee, viz., 180 grains troy; the standard or railway seer is equal to 2.057 lbs. while the standard or railway maund of 40 seers is equivalent to 82 lbs. 4 oz. 9 drams. There are numerous local variations.

### COINAGE—RUPEE IN DOLLARS AND POUNDS

Re. 1 is approximately 1s. 6d. or 30.95 cents.  
Rs. 100 are approximately 27/9 6 or \$50.95.  
Rs. 1,000 are approximately 274/14 10 or \$390.53.  
Rs. 1,00,000 (a lakh) are approximately 27,473/19 2 or \$39,053.  
Rs. 1,00,00,000 (a crore) are approximately 27,47,395/16 8 or \$3,905,350.  
100,000 is one lakh (1,00,000)  
10,00,000 is one crore (1,00,00,000)

#### COINAGE

3 pies are 1 piee.  
4 piee are 1 anna.  
16 annas are 1 rupee.

### GLOSSARY OF SOME COMMON INDIAN TERMS

Kumar	~ A prince; Rajkumar, son of an Indian Raja.
Lascar	~ An Indian seaman; a sailor.
Madrasa	~ A Muslim High School.
Mahajan	~ A money-lender; a merchant.
Maulana	~ An erudite Muslim; a Muslim scholar.
Mazdoor	~ A labourer.
Mela	~ A fair; an exhibition.
Mistri	~ A mechanic; mason; carpenter or foreman.
Mofussil	~ The interior of a district or province as distinguished from the headquarters.
Moulvi	~ A learned person (Muslim).
Nawab	~ Muslim ruler or chief; a title.
Nawabzada	~ Son of a Nawab (zada, a son).
Paddy	~ Rice in the husk.
Panchayat	~ A committee for the management of the affairs of a village or a caste; theoretically the committee consists of five (panch) men.
Pandit (or Pundit)	~ A Hindu title, applied to a person versed in the Hindu scriptures. A Brahmin scholar.
Peon	~ Bearer; orderly.
Pir	~ A Muslim saint or religious teacher.
Pleader	~ A lawyer; a legal practitioner.
Pucca	~ Ripe; mature; cooked; made of brick (as applied to a house); regular; correct; proper; expert.
Puja	~ Worship ( <i>pujari</i> , a priest).
Purdah	~ A veil or curtain; the practice of keeping women in seclusion.
Raiyat (or Ryot)	~ A farmer; an agriculturist.
Sabha	~ Assembly; meeting.
Sadar	~ The headquarters of a district.
Sadhu	~ A Hindu ascetic.
Sanad	~ A charter or grant; a deed of grant.
Sannyasi	~ A Hindu ascetic or mendicant.
Sardar (or Sirdar)	~ Leader; headman; a Sikh title.
Sarkar (or Sircar)	~ A manager or accountant; the Government.
Satyagraha	~ Passive resistance (literally, insistence on or acceptance of truth).
Shroff	~ A Banker (commonly used in Bombay).
Swadesi	~ Of one's own country; made in India.
Tahsil (or Tehsil)	~ A revenue sub-division of a district. Hence "Tehsildar," the officer in charge of a tahsil.
Taluk	~ A revenue sub-division or holding; an estate. (Hence "Talukdar," one who holds a taluk).
Tola	~ A measure of weight (equivalent to 180 grains troy).
Yakil	~ An advocate; a lawyer.
Zemindar	~ A landholder. (Hence "Zemindari," an estate).
Zenana	~ Female; feminine; women's apartments.

### POINTS ABOUT INDIA

Viceroy—H. E. The Marquess of Linlithgow, K.T., G.M.S.I., G.M.L.E., O.B.E., D.L., T.D.



#### MEMBERS OF THE VICEROY'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

His Excellency General Sir Archibald Percival Wavell, G.C.B., C.M.G., M.C., British Service, Commander-in-Chief in India (War).

The Hon'ble Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E. (Defence).  
The Hon'ble Mr. Nalini Ranjan Sarker (Commerce).  
The Hon'ble Sir Hormusji P. Mody, K.B.E. (Supply).  
The Hon'ble Sir Sultan Ahmed (Law).  
The Hon'ble Sir Reginald Maxwell, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S. (Home).  
The Hon'ble Dewan Bahadur Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar (India's Representative at the British War Cabinet and on the Pacific War Council in London).

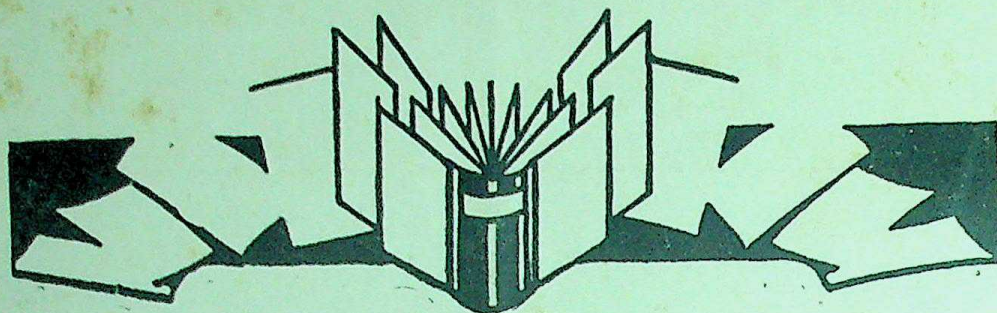
The Hon'ble Dr. B. R. Ambedkar (Labour).  
The Hon'ble Sir E. C. Benthall (War Transport).  
The Hon'ble Sir Jeremy Raisman, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S. (Finance).  
The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Sir Mohammad Usman, K.C.I.E. (Posts and Air).  
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# INDIAN INFORMATION

गुरुकुल संग्रह





## *They Said*

"There must be an understanding of the duties and rights of citizenship and a power of judgment in the great moral issues which always lie behind political controversies and decisions. If, as is claimed, the fate of the future lies in the power of youth, it is vital that youth should be fully equipped and inspired to deal with that future."—*Sir Stafford Cripps at a Youth Rally, Nottingham, August 30.*



"Lift up your hearts then, and trust in your fighting men. As their representative, I proclaim to you my admiration for them, my pride in them, and my trust in them. By their valour you shall conquer."—*General Sir Archibald Wavell in a broadcast from Delhi, September 3.*



"I know my own country even better than I know Japan, and I have not the slightest shadow of doubt of our eventual victory. But I do not wish to see the period of our blood, sweat, and tears indefinitely and unnecessarily prolonged. That period will be prolonged only if our people fail to realize the truth of what I have just said, that we are up against a powerful fighting machine, a people whose morale cannot and will not be broken by economic hardships, a people who individually and collectively will gladly sacrifice their lives for their emperor and their nation, and who can be brought to earth only by physical defeat."—*Mr. Joseph Grew, former Ambassador of the United States in Tokyo, Washington, August 31.*



"You must realise that winning this war, this life and death struggle, must be our first aim. I know a little of what may happen to us if the Axis wins. Fascism is not just a form of Government but a mode of living. Don't believe that you, labourers, villagers, soldiers and ordinary people, will remain unaffected. Nothing is sacred to our enemies."—*The Hon'ble Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon, addressing the Students' Union of the Aligarh Muslim University, August 24.*





BRITISH AND INDIAN PERSONNEL MANNING ONE OF THE MANY ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS NOW GUARDING INDIA AGAINST AIR RAIDERS

## GENERAL WAVELL SURVEYS WAR SITUATION

"It is three years today since we took up Germany's challenge—her challenge to Europe, to the world, to democracy, to liberty, truth and decency. We had gone to the utmost limit in concession to avoid war; and both our honour and our safety required that we should 'appease' no longer. To 'appease' is defined in the dictionary as 'to soothe or to satisfy'; we realised that Hitler was as likely to be soothed as a tiger, as likely to be satisfied as a crocodile, which requires corpses to appease its insatiable hunger."

Thus declared His Excellency General Sir Archibald Wavell, G.C.B., C.M.G., M.C., A.D.C., Commander-in-Chief in India, broadcasting from Delhi on September 3, 1942.

General Wavell added: We had no illusions as to our unpreparedness, no illusions as to the danger of our task, no illusions as to the losses we should incur in lives, in money, in comfort. We put ease behind us to fight for freedom, we gave up our wealth to defend justice, we risked all in order that truth and kindness might prevail on the earth. We thus saved our souls from an ignoble softness which was beginning to spread over us. Let us not forget then, that with no hope of gain, with no thought of glory, with knowledge of all the suffering we should

undergo, we never hesitated in our choice three years ago to resist German domination and tyranny.

The way has been harder, the trials greater even than we had supposed. At the moment we are passing through a depressing and disappointing period, and are almost in danger of forgetting that we have already met and endured much darker and more difficult hours.

### Momentous Conferences

I have, as you know, recently returned from participating in momentous conferences in Cairo and Moscow. I can assure you that those conferences were permeated with no feeling whatever of depression but with inspiring confidence and courage. The morale and fighting spirit of our forces in the Middle East, where practically all the United Nations are represented, is undiminished despite their setbacks of June; and their offensive power is making a rapid recovery. At Moscow two great leaders met for the first time, established cordial relations and imparted to each other the inflexible will of themselves and their peoples to fight on together in close co-operation. I have known and admired the Russian nation and Russian soldier for more than thirty years; their hardihood and courage is the same now as ever. They will not give way.

It is of some interest and of some comfort on this anniversary to look back on the corresponding period of last war, the autumn of 1917. Then, our great Russian ally had collapsed after revolution; a large part of the French army had mutinied after the disastrous defeat of Nivelle's offensive and was only just beginning to recover; while the British Army, in order to take the weight off her allies, was engaged in the bloody and profitless struggle of Passchendaele. Our Italian allies were shortly to suffer disaster at Caporetto and to require rescue; the enemy submarine campaign was at its height and the sinkings heavier than today. The United States had declared war in April but their army took many months to become effective, and their munitions programme had never reached even by the end of the war the stage it has reached now. The outlook for 1918 was gloomy indeed, for all the German forces freed from the Russian front were crossing Europe for a grand attack on the western front in the spring. And yet before 1918 was out our enemies everywhere were suing for peace.

Today, our Russian allies, their "banner torn but flying," are still very much in the fighting line and have no intention whatever of leaving it, they are striking back with vigour and success; the Germans, instead of ourselves, have to carry the Italians; and the United States have not



## DEFENCE

only their vast munitions production in full swing but great and increasing numbers of their troops in full battle. Taking it all round we begin the fourth year of this war with much better prospects than we did the fourth year of the last war.

### "Our Assets Are Impressive"

There are always those in war who are inclined to see and to dwell on our own failures and disappointments and to magnify the enemy's strength and successes. It is better instead to reckon up our assets and to look at our foe's difficulties. Our assets are impressive indeed. The four mightiest assemblies of peoples in the world—the British Empire, the United States of America, the Union of Soviet Republics of Russia, the great and ancient civilisation of China—all these are on our side and the aid and sympathy of many others—of Poland, of Greece, of Czechoslovakia, of Belgium, of Holland, of Norway, of most of France, of the nations of South America. We have great leaders, Churchill, Roosevelt, Stalin, Chiang Kai-shek, men of unquenchable courage who well represent the spirit of the peoples they lead. The rising flow of munitions of all kinds, especially of ships, aeroplanes and tanks, is a sure guarantee of victory. And we have the stimulus of the great ideals for which we are fighting.

Consider our enemies. The supreme German effort which we all anticipated has been made, has had some success, is now beginning to falter. Despite all their conquests they can find no peace, no nation willing to surrender to their lying promises or dire threats. Only their Rumanian and Hungarian dupes follow at their heels—cowed dogs who snarl at each other when their masters are not looking. The advantage the enemy held from their short interior line of communications is disappearing as their columns begin to stretch out to the border of Asia.

### "The Tide Has Turned"

The tide of hatred against the Germans in Europe continues to mount; as do their irreplaceable losses of men and material, while the Allies have still large reserves of both intact. The savage execution of innocent hostages in increasing numbers is a measure of the German army's growing fear of the future. Their leader Hitler is being recognised as the tin-horn gambler whose run of luck is passing. The shape of things to come is taking on an ever grimmer aspect for the German people; their hearts are sinking into their empty stomachs; soon they will sink still lower into their ersatz boots. As for the Italians, they know they lost the war long ago, their only uncertainty is whether they have lost it to the Germans or to the Allies.

For Japan also the tide has turned; the run of quick and easy success that carefully planned treachery gave her is over. Both her fleet and her air force are beginning to melt, and her dreams of prosperity at the expense of the rest of Asia are vanishing.

Make no mistake though: these writings on the wall for our enemies do not yet justify any complacency on our part in mind or action. We must continue to give our undivided attention, our full sacrifice of body and mind to the task in hand.

Where does India stand with reference to this World War? The danger to her homes is closer than it has been for more than 150 years; but her armies and air forces are stronger and better equipped than

ever before, her industrial progress in the making of munitions has been astonishing, and the military renown of her soldiers never stood higher.

Today thousands of young Indian Officers and over a million men have joined up to support India's magnificent pre-war army, which has already played so great a part in the land struggle. The Indian Navy and Air Force are growing in numbers, in equipment, in skill, in reputation.

### Tribute To Indian Troops

The men who broke the Italian line at Sidi Barrani and drove them into headlong rout, the men who stormed the heights of Keren and Amba Alagi, the men who captured Damascus in face of great odds, the men who fought the rear-guard actions of Malaya and Burma, the men who stood and stand dauntless against Rommel's Germans, the men who now protect India on all fronts from her foes, the men who fight as comrades side by side, whatever their caste and creed—these are the defenders of India in her hour of danger. Rajputs, Mahrattas and Madrassis; the great fighting races of the Punjab; Pathans from the Frontier; Jats and Garhwalis; and many others—men of the North, men of the Centre, men of the South, from the whole countryside of India, they fight, together with the sturdy Gurkhas of our ally Nepal, alongside British and Allied troops. These are the true representatives of India's nationhood.

The eyes of the world are on India, it is her great trial and great opportunity. It is not politicians, intent on domestic issues and quarrels, it is not undisciplined schoolboys, it is certainly not irresponsible mischief-makers and gangs of ignorant hooligans, but the disciplined might of her fighting men that is saving and will save India. They must be helped and not betrayed.

Lift up your hearts then, and trust in your fighting men. As their representative, I proclaim to you my admiration for them, my pride in them, and my trust in them. By their valour you shall conquer.

### KASHMIR'S TROOPS FOR SERVICE UNDER CROWN

Following correspondence between H.E. the Commander-in-Chief and His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir, the Government of Kashmir has offered one more battalion of infantry for service under the Crown.

In addition, two mountain batteries and the Kashmir Government's Artillery Training Centre are to be handed over to the Government of India.

Both offers have been accepted with gratitude, and the artillery units will be incorporated in the I.A., in which they will receive the same treatment in every respect as pre-war units.

### A GERMAN JOURNAL BOASTS

Berliner Lokalanzeiger  
5 Sept. 1941

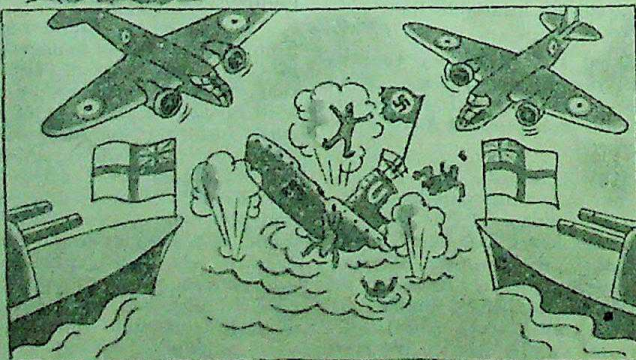
The effect of U-boat warfare  
is becoming more deadly.



### BUT A GERMAN U-BOAT COMMANDER CONFESSES!

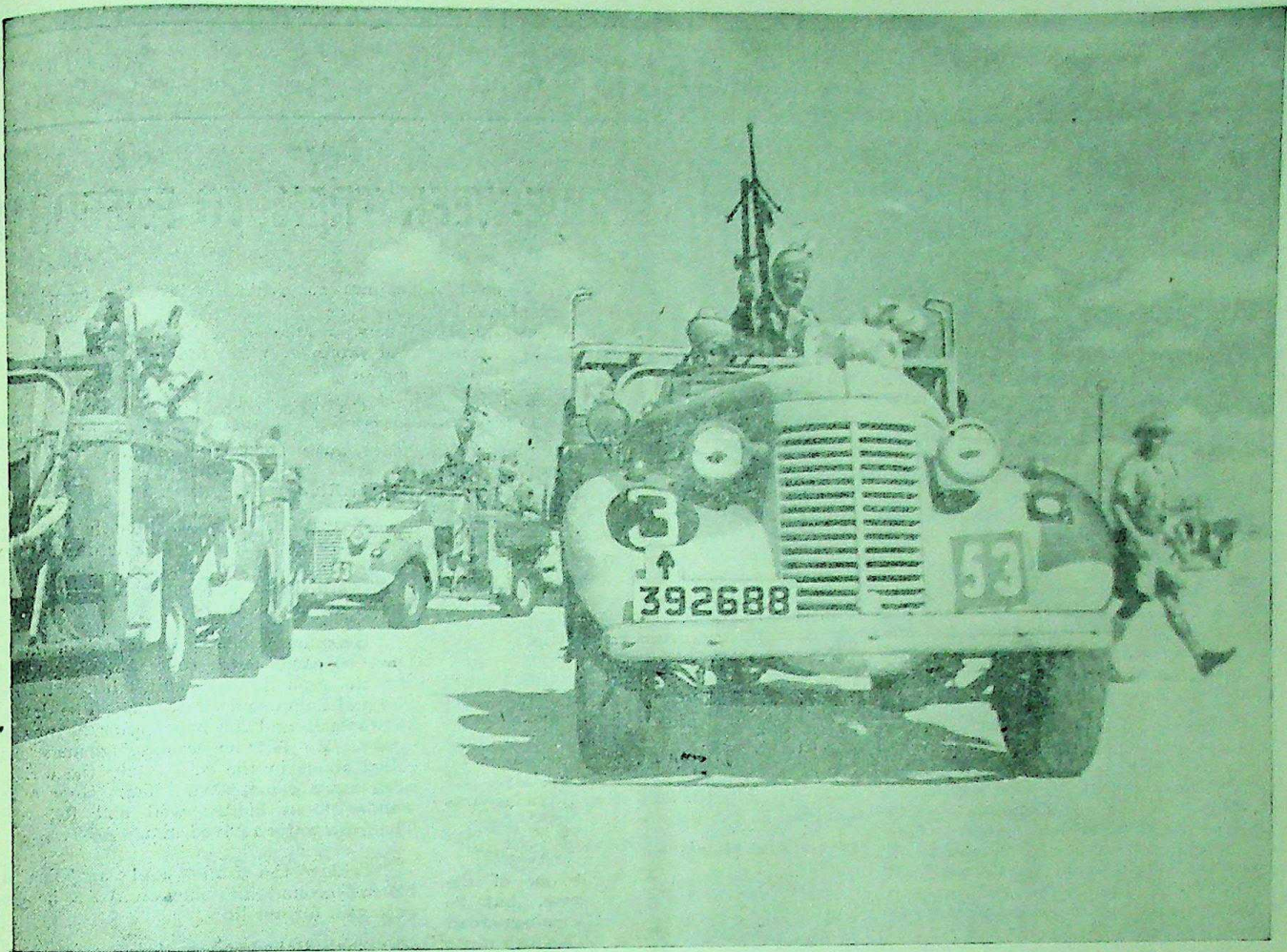
British convoys are greatly strengthened, and British planes and warships chase German submarines away.

U-boat Commander Kell at a conference in Berlin, 4 Sept. 1941



WHO SHOULD KNOW BEST?





A LINE OF LORRIES, MANNED BY INDIAN TROOPS, IN THE WESTERN DESERT. SCENE FROM F.A.B.'S FILM "DEFENDERS OF INDIA"

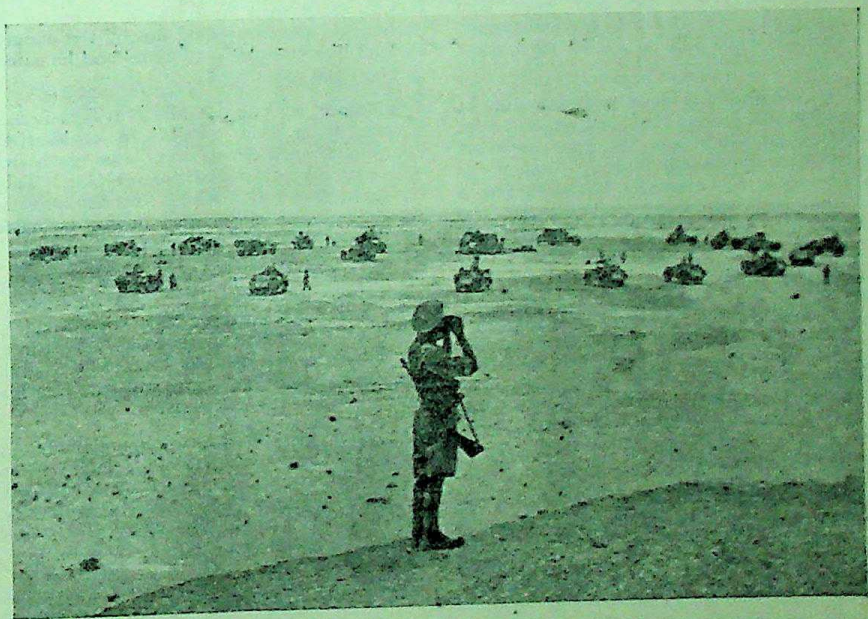
## "E-BOATS OF THE DESERT" HARASS NAZIS IN N. AFRICA

**"O**ur mobile columns were active and harassed the enemy's flank, causing losses to his transport, and inflicting damage on his armoured vehicles."

Behind bald announcements of this kind lies a story of skill, daring and thrills, a story of the "E-Boats of the Desert," fast armoured cars which impudently sweep upon the enemy, shooting up his tanks, destroying his supply columns, and then rushing to another part of the vast, sandy battlefield, to go through the same performance all over again.

### Cavalcade Of Steel

In this form of bold, breathless warfare Indians are playing a grand part side by side with the British. Suited by temperament and training to this type of daring fighting, they are striking terror into the hearts of the Germans, who never know at what moment a racing, roaring cavalcade of steel may challenge them to battle when they least expect—or desire—it.



At night in the Western Desert, Indian mobile columns form into a circle, with all the armoured carriers drawn up so that their guns point outwards

For the role of these mechanised cavalry units is essentially one of attack, to seek out the enemy at every possible opportunity, to force him to fight, and to destroy him. From making mincemeat of the "soft-skinned" vehicles which carry much-needed supplies to Rommel's outposts, to pitting their fire-power against the thick

hide of a tank—it is all in the day's work.

Another part of their job is to "recede," and report every move of the enemy, to act as the "eyes and ears" of the Divisional Headquarters further back, so that heavy armour may know in good time of any big advance, and deploy in order to break it up.



## DEFENCE

### GURKHA'S FIVE-WEEK TREK TO FREEDOM

These fleets are admirably comprised to carry out their aggressive role. They consist of the minimum of men and the maximum of weapons—25-pounders, anti-tank guns, Bren guns and mortars. In size they vary considerably. Sometimes they consist of a score of vehicles, and sometimes of only six. Always they are hard-hitting and swift, quick on the draw, and snappy in making a getaway before the enemy can summon more support to overwhelm them.

#### "Briefing"

The vehicles consist of the latest type of armoured cars and carriers. The Indian crews are very proud of the fact that the bullet-proof steel which protects them was made by the famous Indian firm of Tata.

At night the columns sleep in the form of a circle, with all the vehicles drawn up so that their guns point outwards, and every man with one eye open! Before the first glimmer of light they are up and doing in preparation for the new day.

"Briefing" follows in order that everybody shall understand the day's programme, which frequently covers an area of several hundred square miles. Then the fleet moves off on another day of adventure, another trip into the unknown, once more to dare fate, and provide another example of pluck against the Panzers—pluck plus the toughest, hardest-hitting combination of modern weapons which has ever been assembled in one compact space.

Perhaps the day will include an encounter with German tanks, and a few burning wrecks will prove the effectiveness of the anti-tank guns. More commonly the fleet will engage an enemy supply column, scattering its trucks far and wide, and taking heavy toll of men and materials. Or perhaps there will be a duel with some Stukas.

At nightfall the crews will assemble at a previously-appointed rendezvous, and over the evening meal they exchange stories of their adventures—an exciting, dangerous life, lived in the company of death, but a life to thrill the mind and capture the imagination.

#### ARMY HELPS TO SOLVE TRANSPORT PROBLEM

Considerable quantities of petrol are of necessity consumed daily in the training of military M.T. drivers, and a recent experiment of the North-Western Army has enabled this precious petrol to perform a dual purpose.

In order to lessen the load on the railways—which have to face heavy demands in wartime—arrangements have been made for learner-drivers to combine the carriage of goods with their more advanced training.

Despite the fact that it is only during the 13th and 14th weeks of their course that learner-drivers carry out long journeys, 9,000 tons of military stores—the equivalent of nearly 450 railway wagon loads—were transported in three weeks by training units of the North-Western Army.

So successful has the experiment been, from the points of view of speed, saving in transport, and expenditure, that it is to be extended to other areas, and soon an inter-unit transport service will be inaugurated, operated entirely by learner-drivers.

Walking 400 miles through enemy-occupied territory, a Gurkha Havildar has just come back from Tobruk to our lines after a trek of five weeks, writes an Indian Army Observer in Egypt. As a feat of endurance, high courage and determination, his trek would be hard to parallel.

He is Havildar Singh Bahadur of the 7th Gurkha Rifles. As part of the garrison of Tobruk, his platoon had orders to hold their ground at all costs and, after firing their last round, they were overrun by tanks on June 20. For four days Havildar Singh Bahadur was a prisoner in an improvised "cage." He decided to escape and the opportunity occurred on the night of June 24 soon after the moon had set in.

With a borrowed but empty water-bottle, an equally empty haversack and without his boots (to avoid making any noise) the Havildar wormed his way through the wires. The sentry's suspicions were aroused—fortunately just too late. He fired but missed, and the Havildar was soon lost in the night.

#### Water And Maize

Singh Bahadur had got out of the "cage" with comparative ease, but he had still to avoid the German-guarded wires surrounding Tobruk. The first night he spent among the hills of Tobruk. The second night he made for a well he knew.

"Crawling on my belly like a snake, I made my way to the well and drank my fill," relates the Havildar. Soon after the R.A.F. came over in strength. The bomb flashes and the answering fire by the enemy showed him the places to avoid and he came through the wires safely.

Making for the sea, the Havildar found "some water that smelt" in a deserted Regimental Aid Post and later gathered some maize from a cultivated plot. This sustained him for a while. In daylight he lay hidden and slept, but during darkness he covered as much ground as he could.

The water and the maize were soon exhausted and so were a couple of melons he "stole." He grew weak with hunger, and could scarcely stagger along. Tortured by thirst he was often tempted to give himself up and be done with it, but his courage held and he persisted.

From the radiators of abandoned and destroyed trucks, the Havildar managed to get enough water to keep him alive. Broken biscuits, scrounged from derelict trucks, were his only food and thus, weak and faltering, he came to Sollum.

For two hours he watched an enemy column, with lights on, crawling down the Sollum Pass. Then he cut across to the railway line and began walking along it towards Matruh.

He had several narrow escapes. Once he ventured out in the afternoon. Suddenly he saw some Germans repairing a number of trucks ahead of him. On his right was a big camp of Italians. For a moment the Havildar thought that all his efforts had been wasted. Then he saw a burnt-out truck. He hid behind it, but feared some wandering German might discover him. Near the truck were some half-burnt clothes. Wrapping these around his knees and

elbows to avoid bruises, he crawled in the lee of the railway embankment for about a mile until he was out of view. He swore he would not go out in daylight again.

On other occasions wandering groups of the enemy strayed very near his hiding place, but never spotted him.

#### Camel Ride

Near Matruh he learnt that British troops were at Alamein and he decided not to go along the railway line. He rested a day, then, with his water bottle full, he struck across the desert.

He suffered terribly from lack of water. Once he came across some palm trees and felt the ground moist under his feet. He dug and found some water, which he drank. It was salt and for hours after he was in agony. He felt he was going mad and rolled about in the sun. Only the arrival of a stray camel saved him. He saw it wander to a hidden well and followed. The fresh water revived him.

Taking the camel and wrapping a blanket around him like an Arab, he set out again for our lines.

Singh Bahadur bewailed the fate that forced him, after all he had gone through, to undergo the insufferable torture of a camel ride. At last he could not bear it any longer and decided to walk. But his blistered feet prevented him from keeping up and, finally, he mounted the camel again.

Four days later he was amongst a conglomeration of trucks which, in his guise of an Arab, he inspected closely before deciding that they were British.

It was not surprising that, after his trials and tribulations over five weeks, he broke down and had to be sent to hospital. He has recovered now and is his old cheerful Gurkha self again.

#### GURKHAS' GOOD DEED

Two units on the North-West Frontier, one Scottish and the other Gurkha, were marching to a rendezvous. The Gurkhas came by an easier route, and arrived first.

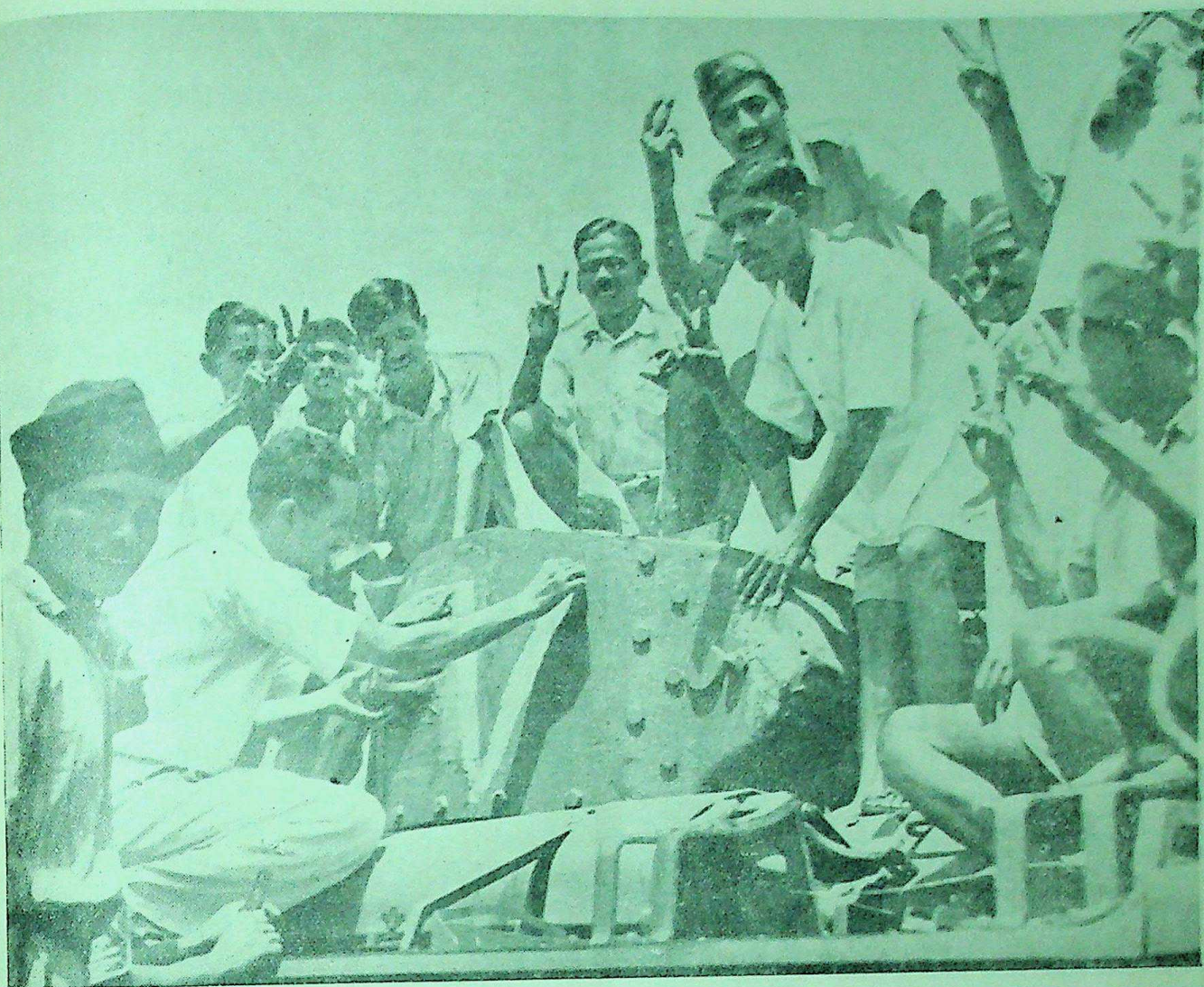
The first task when pitching camp on the Frontier is to erect a wall of stones as a shield against snipers, and each section is responsible for its own section of the defences.

The Gurkhas had finished their part of the job, and were sitting down to their evening meal when they heard that their British companions had been delayed. Putting aside their food they set about completing the wall.

When at last the Scotties marched in, hot and tired, it was to find everything finished and ready for the night—a gesture which was greeted with a great show of appreciation.

The Gurkhas went quietly on with their supper. To them it was just another example of the respect which is so mutual between British and Indian fighting men.





PAINTING THE V FOR VICTORY SIGN ON THE TURRET OF A TANK AFTER IT WAS UNLOADED FROM THE RECENT CONVOY

## STORY OF WESTERN DESERT AWARDS

Noticing that a number of troops were being hard pressed by the Germans, Lieut.-Colonel Arthur Charles Taylor, D.S.O., Baluch Regiment, forced a footing on an escarpment south of Matruh, thus drawing enemy attention to himself.

This happened on June 27, 1942, and details are given in a report of actions in the Western Desert for which immediate awards were announced on August 5 and August 6. For his gallantry Lieut.-Colonel Taylor received a bar to his D.S.O.

The same night Captain Francis Courtney, M.C., Royal Fusiliers, made contact with the enemy on several occasions while performing the duties of a navigating officer. He displayed great coolness and skill under the heaviest fire, and won a bar to his M.C.

Major Christopher Wilson Yeates, Gurkha Rifles, who received the D.S.O., rallied a battalion so successfully when they were attacked by tanks during their first experience of being under fire, that the enemy advance was checked.

With no previous experience of tanks, Captain Simon Anthony Cunningham

Trestrail, Sikh Regiment, jumped into a deserted Matilda after escaping through the enemy lines, and navigated it over hostile country, gaining valuable information, before joining up with our troops. He received the M.C.

Captain George Edward Charter, Rajputana Rifles, received the M.C. for coolness and courage under fire, and a similar decoration was awarded to Captain Harry Sinclair Freegard, Garhwal Rifles, for acting as a bait for the enemy with a decoy truck while his men waited in ambush for them.

For taking an ambulance unit through a minefield under heavy enemy fire Lieut. Dennis John Burnett, I.M.S., also received the M.C.

Another M.C. went to 2nd Lieut. Cyril Cayley, Rajputana Rifles, whose direction of withering machine-gun fire from the flank played a large part in stemming the enemy's advance during another stage in the operations.

### I.O.M. And I.D.S.M.

Subedar-Major Sohan Singh Bahadur, O.B.I., Frontier Force Rifles, received the

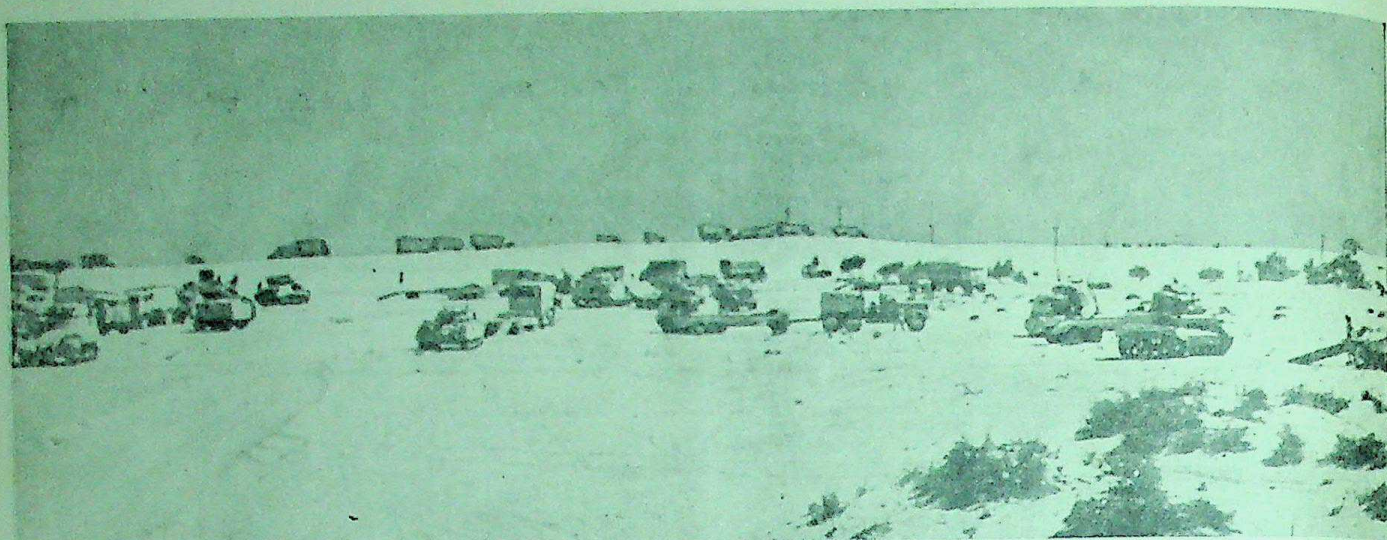
I.O.M. for his courage in saving the battalion's transport when their position was overrun, and for his desperate attempts to rescue his C.O., who was taken prisoner. Another I.O.M. was won by 5591 Naik Thapar Singh Rana, Garhwal Rifles, for his determination in remaining to repair a carrier which broke down within 200 yards of German anti-tank guns.

Firing at point-blank range at approaching enemy tanks, Havildar Kehar Singh, Anti-Tank Regiment, I.A., forced them to retire, thus saving the infantry behind him, and winning the I.D.S.M. A similar decoration was awarded to Jemadar Bhagwana Ram, Rajputana Rifles, for his bravery in repeatedly repairing telephone wires when they were cut by enemy fire.

The I.D.S.M. was awarded to Jemadar Lall Khan, also of Rajputana Rifles, for his coolness in directing fire on the enemy when they had overrun a platoon on his right. A third member of the Rajputana Rifles to receive the I.D.S.M. was 29524 Lance-Naik Chandgi Ram, who braved a hail of German bullets in order to obtain more ammunition with which to keep his machine-gun in action.

The final award went to 9175 Lance-Naik Rattan Singh, Frontier Force Rifles, who volunteered to carry messages to outlying detachments under fire from enemy tanks. He was captured, but while in captivity he busied himself circulating escape plans to other prisoners, 70 of whom were able to escape by following his directions.





BRITISH TRANSPORT COLUMNS AND TANKS BEING RE-FORMED ON THE EL ALAMEIN LINE IN THE WESTERN DESERT

## INDIAN TROOPS REPULSE NAZI ATTACK ON RUWEISAT RIDGE

From the sandy Mediterranean coast on the Alamein Front rises a narrow ridge almost entirely contained by the main road running parallel with the shore. About ten miles south of this ridge is a rather wider ridge known as Ruweisat ridge, taking its name from the railway station some 30 miles east of the present front line.

Ruweisat ridge, which forms the key position on the central sector of the front, has throughout been held by Indian troops and has been the scene of some of the most intense fighting, writes an Indian Army Observer. On this sector, the Germans massed their heavy armour as well as battle groups of the 90th Light Division. Even so, our troops managed to hold the main portion of the ridge and made important advances along the ridge.

### Nazi Attack Fails

The initial German attack, made with a large number of tanks and mobile guns, was held and broken by a small column known as "Rob Column" (consisting of a battalion of the Essex Regiment, a battery of 25-pounders and a few tanks). How they did it is a heroic story, which elicited praise and congratulations from General Auchinleck himself. Had the Germans got through then, our position would have been grave indeed.

Knowing that they had behind them at that time little with which to check the German drive "Rob Column" put up a magnificent fight against great odds.

That glorious example was followed by an engagement which showed the grim determination of the Indian troops on the ridge to stop the enemy thrust, whatever the cost.

The most important line for the Germans is the northern edge of Ruweisat ridge. This overlooks the valley in which the Germans are holding very strong points. Just before it slopes down to the valley, it is rather rocky, at places extremely hard to dig in, and, though generally not high, it rises to noticeable peaks, with hollows in between.



TANKS GO INTO ACTION—CREWS DASH TO THEIR TANKS WHEN THE ALARM IS GIVEN

It has been the objective of the Indian troops to control these peaks and they have already taken two important "points" (as they are known) in spite of strong resistance from Panzer troops.

One of the most important of these points—and one which the Germans have desperately counter-attacked and are dive-bombing three or four times a day—is point "X," recently captured by a battalion of the Rajputana Rifles. (This battalion, incidentally, has been in every campaign in the Middle East except Greece).

Following the German attack held by "Rob Column" the Rajputana Rifles

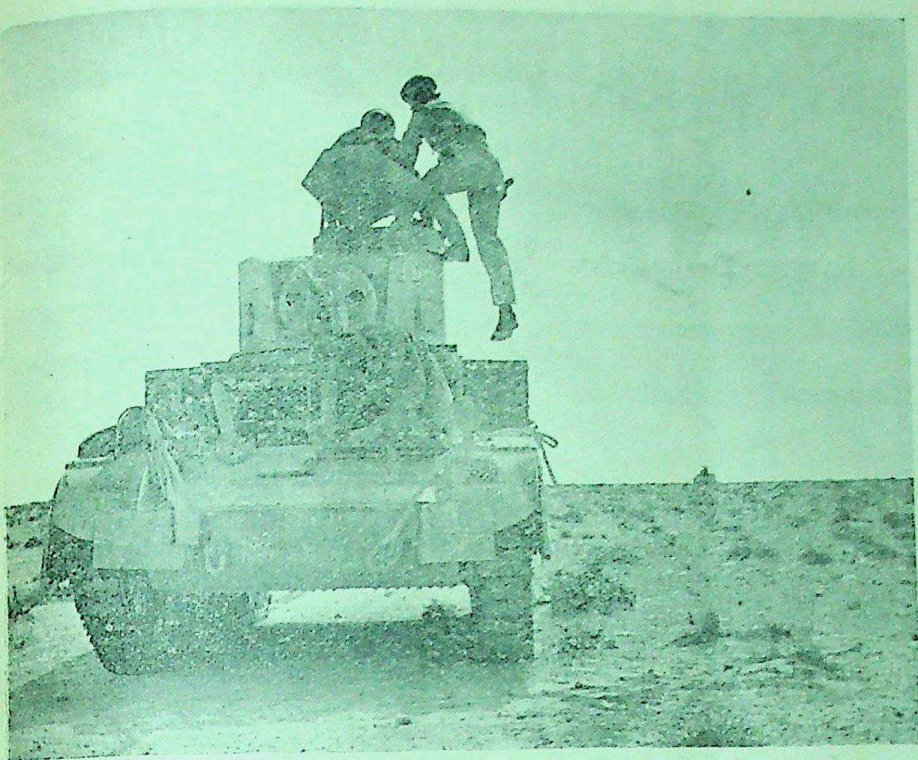
attacked at night, but were held up by strong enemy forces and heavy fire. A gap, however, had been cleared in the enemy minefield, and next day the battalion attacked again. By this time New Zealanders had come up on the left flank, which made the task easier.

Through the gap advanced a company led by an Indian Officer from the United Provinces. There was some fire, but as soon as the Rajputana Rifles got through they were embarrassed by the number of prisoners they took.

In the evening the Germans counter-attacked with tanks and infantry. Our



## DEFENCE



IN A FEW SECONDS THE CREWS ARE ALL ABOARD. THE GUNNER IS TESTING THE GUNS



THE TANKS SPEED ACROSS THE DESERT WITH GUNS TRIMMED FOR ACTION

GERMAN TANKS ARE ABLAZE AFTER AN ENCOUNTER IN THE WESTERN DESERT

six-pounders made mincemeat of some of the tanks and the rest retired hurriedly.

The following day the same Indian Officer was ordered to take a machine-gun post which was hindering observation. He went forward with a platoon. After advancing 1,000 yards in a westerly direction he came under fire. He made another 300 yards, and then tanks loomed up over a rise about 800 yards away.

He reported that, in the circumstances, his platoon could not take the post, and he was ordered to hold on and await reinforcements. The tanks advanced—a horrible moment for a platoon without a single anti-tank weapon. The officer took up a position right in front of his men, who remained calm. The tanks came up to within 500 yards and then—perhaps the firmness of the Rajputana Rifles daunted them, or perhaps they thought they were running into a trap, anyway they withdrew to their original position from where they continued to shell our men for an hour before nightfall.

The Germans, however, were not going to give up Point "X" easily. They attacked again with a larger number of tanks. This time they were faced by a Company of Rajputana Rifles. While the guns behind this company engaged the tanks, the men remained in their trenches only 900 yards away from the tanks. Fire from both sides passed through their position, but they held steady. When enemy infantry tried to advance, the company suddenly came to life and inflicted heavy losses on the Germans.

Four tanks were destroyed and the Panzer troops retired.

### JAPANESE FOSTER VICE ON INDO-CHINA BORDER

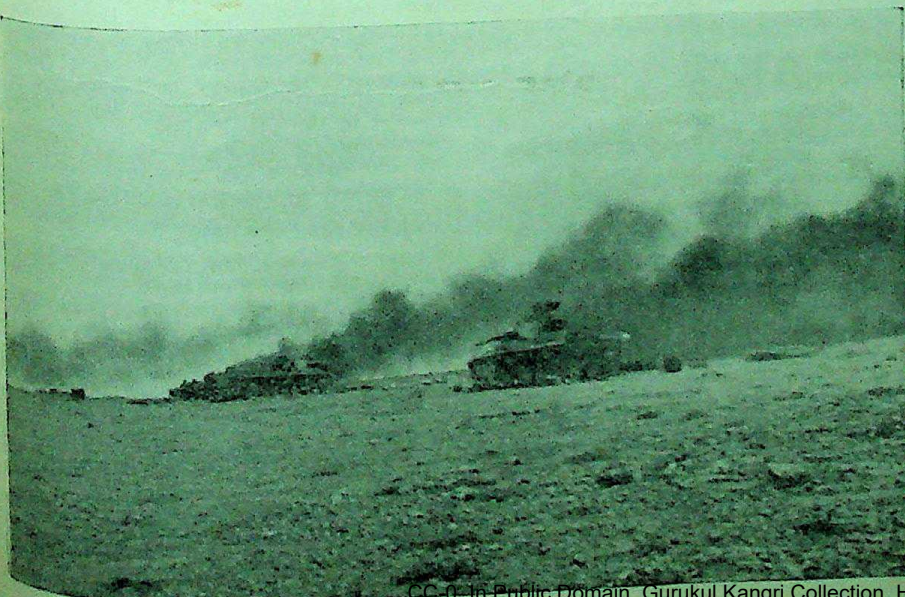
Wherever there are Japanese, one finds narcotics, gambling dens and houses of prostitution. This is true not only of the occupied areas in China but of a number of towns in Indo-China.

Mongkai, bordering Tunghing in eastern Kwangtung, for instance, is the scene of vices of all sorts. Crimes which these vices have bred have been rampant on the border. They include robberies, thefts and smuggling. The disturbed conditions along the Indo-China border have seriously affected peace and order on the Chinese side.

In the past two months, more than ten cases of robbery were reported in and around Mongkai, and vehicles running between Mongkai and the suburbs and the nearby towns were often held up and looted. Time and again, homes of well-to-do residents in Mongkai were burgled in broad daylight. The losses in robberies in the past two months are estimated at more than \$1,000,000.

The Chinese police force and the customs preventive units along the border have been reinforced to keep Chinese territory free from these unruly elements. Rigid precautionary measures have been taken against smuggling. Metal, rice, salt, cotton, cloth and other kinds of materials and foodstuffs are being transported into the interior from the border regions to prevent them from falling into Japanese hands.

Not only do the Japanese foster vice and crime, but, hoping to utilise Chinese manpower, they are organising so-called overseas Chinese peace maintenance corps in Indo-China.







AIR OBSERVATION IS INCLUDED IN THE CURRICULUM OF THE WAR OFFICE TRAINING SCHOOL. HERE, A TRAINEE PRACTISES CAMOUFLAGE

## ASKARIS PRACTISE 'TREE-MELTING' ART IN CEYLON'S JUNGLES

**T**he people of Ceylon are rubbing their eyes in amazement these days. The cause of it is the new game of "tree-melting."

The Askaris, brave East African warriors who are forming part of the island's defence after their victorious campaigns in Italian Somaliland and Abyssinia, are taught this art from childhood. Wild animals in their country often make quick disappearances a necessity.

Now, taking to jungle warfare like ducks to water, they can be visible one moment, and in the next they have completely vanished. During recent training exercises in the Ceylonese jungle an entire

battalion disappeared from view after taking only a few paces.

The great advantage of this disappearing trick is that the troops can re-appear just as quickly, and when they do it is with rifles, machine-guns, mortars and light artillery weapons, in the use of all of which they are experts.

### AXIS TROOPS DREAD THE "PANGAR"

Cold steel is still the weapon Axis troops fear most. Germans, Italians or Japanese, they are all the same. The glint of steel makes them squeal.

Now the Gurkhas' dreaded *kukri* has a companion. It is the "pangar," personal

weapon of the East African troops who are taking part in the defence of Ceylon.

Combining the feature of the *kukri*, the Malay "kris," and the "katti" of the Sinhalese, the "pangar" is reputed to have put another five miles an hour on the speed of the retreating Italians in Abyssinia.

The men who are sharpening these "pangars" in Ceylon are sturdy and seasoned troops of fine physique, fully-trained in the use of rifles, machine-gun, mortar and light artillery weapons. They are all volunteers, and have already fought with distinction in two campaigns.

### NATIONAL DEFENCE COUNCIL

At the session of the National Defence Council held at Delhi from September 7 to 9, 1942, the representatives of the Indian States were, in addition to the President of the Executive Council of the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam, Their Highnesses the Maharao of Cutch, the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur, the Raja of Faridkot, the Maharaja of Jaipur, the Raja of Mandi and the Maharaja of Tripura.



## DEFENCE



Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan, Premier of the Punjab, met Punjabi Officers at a rest camp in Baghdad during his visit to Iraq some time ago

## PUNJAB PREMIER VISITS INDIA'S DEFENDERS IN MIDDLE EAST

**D**uring a month's extensive tour of the Middle East and Cyprus, Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan, Premier of the Punjab, has carried a message of encouragement and appreciation to almost all the Indian units so gallantly guarding the approaches to India.

Accompanied by Captain Anderson, Financial Commissioner of the Punjab, the Premier of the Punjab visited the Canal Zone, the Delta area, the battle front and Cyprus before returning again to the Western Desert to meet General Alexander, the new Commander-in-Chief, and talked to him about Indian troops.

Even before reaching the battle area, Sir Sikandar had an exciting moment when a high-flying Junkers unloaded its bombs close to the Premier and his party.

### Troops Complimented

One of the high-lights of the tour was when Sir Sikandar met, after 21 years, his

old battalion, holding a sector of the front line. At least two of the men were recognised by Sir Sikandar as having been in the battalion in his days and he expressed regret at missing the Sikh Subedar-Major (a Havildar-Major in Sir Sikandar's time), who had been wounded and had returned to India.

Everywhere Sir Sikandar was received with great enthusiasm. In specially composed poems, the "Jawans" expressed their gratification that the Premier had braved so many hazards to visit them, but he replied that the few insignificant risks he had taken were as nothing compared to what the "Jawans" were undergoing every day. Sir Sikandar complimented them on their gallant behaviour on the battlefields of Libya and Egypt. They had made a name for themselves and had enhanced the reputation of the Indian Army. He exhorted the recruits to live up to the standard set by their brethren.

Referring to home affairs, Sir Sikandar said that he was anxious that the soldiers overseas should have no cause for anxiety regarding their families or property in India. He had taken special measures to look after their interests. More than this, he was eager that the "Jawans," when they returned home and were demobilised, should have every opportunity of making good. He did not relish the idea of the stay-at-homes gaining any advantage over the soldiers who were defending their country with their blood. The Premier was taking steps in his own province to ensure a fair chance for the ex-soldier.

Sir Sikandar emphasised the fact that India would have full independence after the war, and for this she would have to thank the men who had fought and bled for her, and not the wrangling politicians making speeches safely away from the war.

### In Cyprus

The Premier and Captain Anderson found a week's respite from the sand and flies of the desert among the trees and hills of Cyprus. But here, too, they travelled hundreds of miles visiting different units. Sir Sikandar praised their performance and encouraged them to even greater deeds.

Returning from Cyprus to the Western Desert, Sir Sikandar made a special journey to meet the new Commander-in-Chief and took the opportunity of discussing with him some of the problems of the Indian troops. He was afterwards able to assure the men that these problems were receiving every consideration by the military authorities.

### ARMY COMMANDERS' POWERS TO ORDER EVACUATION

Commanders of Armies, Corps, Divisions, Districts, Brigades and Areas have been authorised to make orders under Defence of India Rule 49, which deals with the evacuation of certain areas in the event of an actual or apprehended enemy attack. This delegation of powers has been made as a precautionary measure, to guard against the possibility that, if an invasion did occur, Military Commanders requiring areas to be cleared might not be able to get into touch with the civil authorities concerned. Military Commanders will not exercise these powers except in such circumstances, and this delegation in no way portends any sudden intensification of evacuation measures or their immediate transfer to military control.

### EMPLOYMENT OF TROOPS IN ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Amendments to the Defence of India Rules published on August 21, 1942, empower Government to direct that troops shall be employed in any undertaking which in the opinion of Government is engaged in any trade or business essential to the life of the community. Essential services must be carried on in all circumstances, and where normal working stops for any reason Government must take every possible step to secure their continuance. These amendments provide the necessary legal cover for the employment of suitably trained troops for such purposes.





At a workshop behind the fighting lines in the Western Desert, damaged trucks, armoured carriers, guns and tanks are repaired and returned to the battle zone. Here, a damaged gun is put in order

## HOW SALVAGE HELPS INDIA'S WAR EFFORT

**C**annibalism, a word with grim associations, has taken on a new meaning as the term used to describe the improvisation by which sound components are recovered from unserviceable equipment and utilized to maintain serviceable equipment.

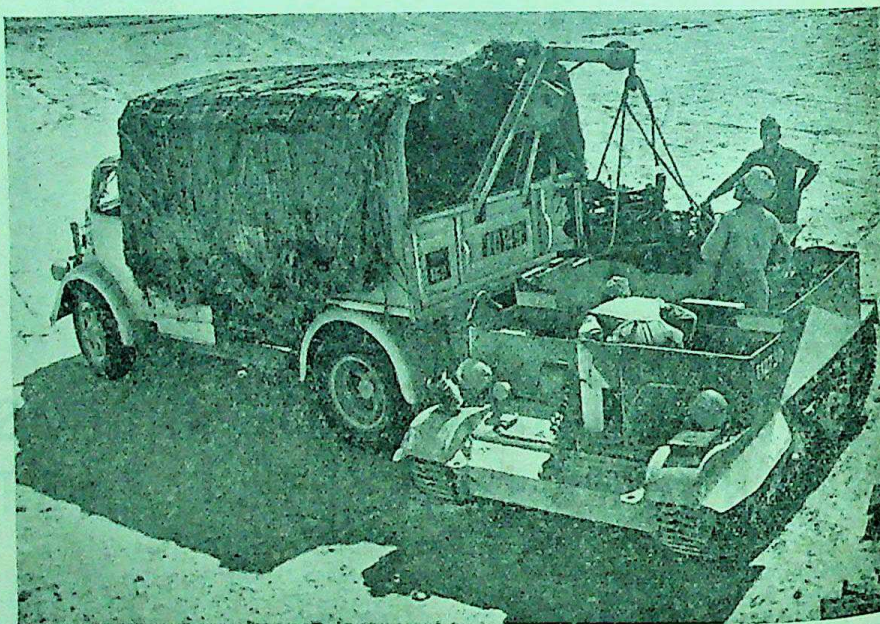
This is all part of the great salvage scheme recently inaugurated by the combined Forces in India to co-ordinate the collection of everything unserviceable, from a tin-tack to a warship.

The Salvage Directorate experts have their representatives with the various arms of the service, and with all Armies and Commands. These salvage men comb the locations where they are stationed and arrange the collection of all old articles, even to a piece of cotton rag or a broken bolt.

### Position Before War

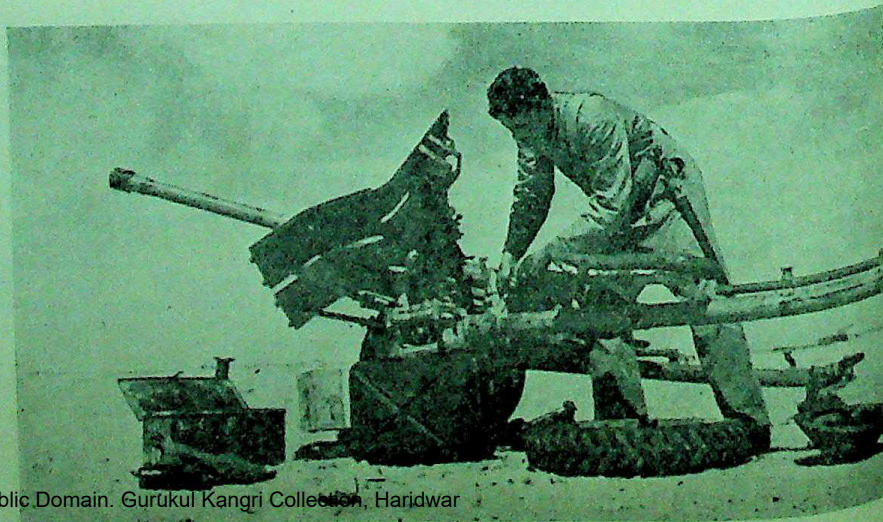
Prior to the war, with all sorts of raw material available, salvage generally did not pay, but today, with increasing scarcity of materials, every discarded commodity can be utilized in some way.

Take, for instance, a pair of old boots, the soles worn off, the stitches rotted. Seemingly they are useless, but in fact they will provide several valuable commodities. There may be the remnants of a rubber heel, or metal toe and heel plates, which can be pulped or melted down and used again. The old soles can be used as leather packing. The uppers, if too decrepit for any other use, can be repulped and used to make leather board after the tannin dye



REPLACING DAMAGED ENGINE OF A BREN-GUN CARRIER BROUGHT IN BY RECOVERY SECTION

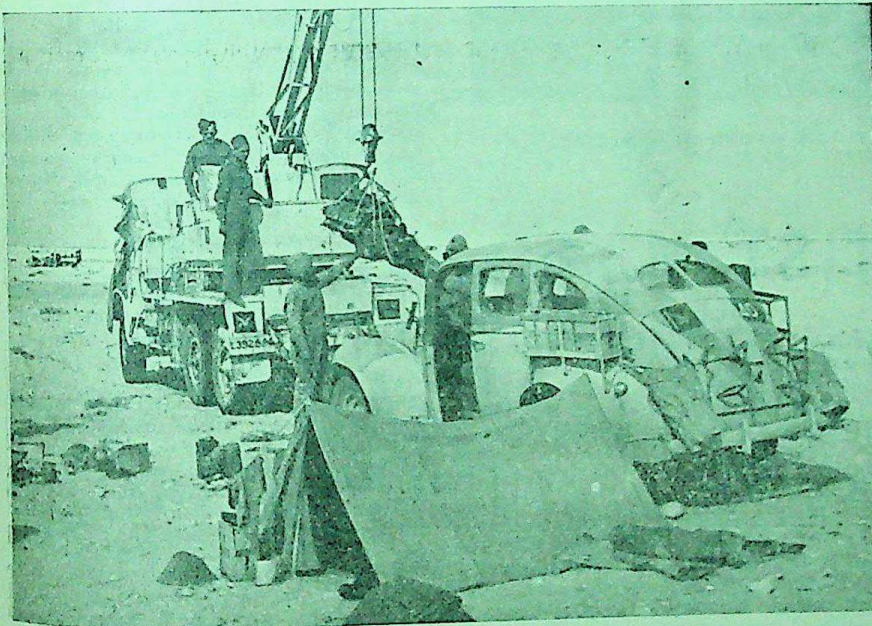
AN ARMY SALVAGE EXPERT REPAIRS AN ANTI-TANK GUN IN THE WESTERN DESERT





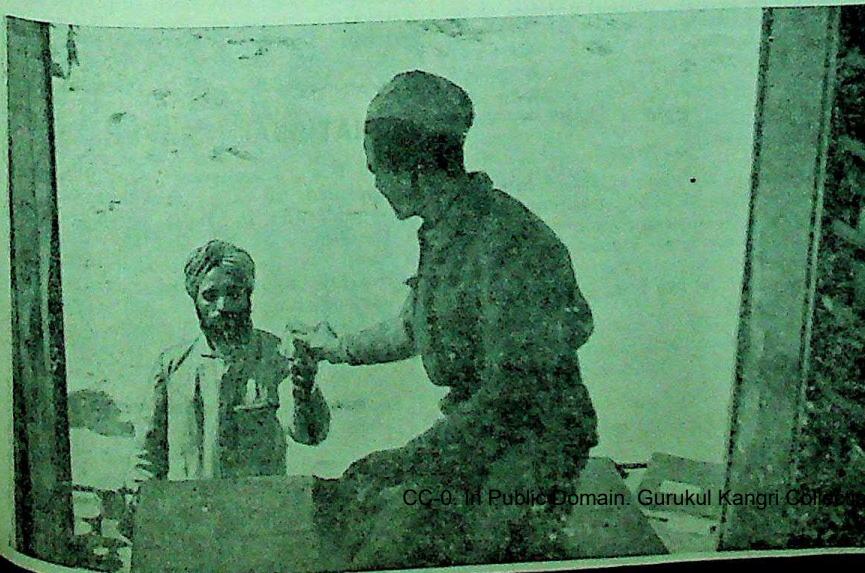


EVERY BIT OF MACHINERY COMES IN USEFUL ONE WAY OR THE OTHER. ONE OF THE BLACKSMITHS HAMMERS AWAY UNDER THE DESERT SUN



A STAFF CAR GETS A NEW ENGINE. THE DRIVER'S BIVOUAC IS BY THE CAR

THE STOREMAN ISSUES STORES TO ONE OF THE SALVAGE MEN



has been extracted. Finally, if the article is so far gone that it cannot be utilized even for pulping, it can by various processes be changed into an excellent chemical manure.

Each arm of the service has its own repair depots for various types of machinery. Perhaps an aircraft crashes. The instruments are among the valuable components which are salvaged. They are removed and, regardless of their condition, are despatched to laboratories, where they are re-assembled, tested and again put into service as good as new.

A motor vehicle gets smashed beyond repair. Along come the salvage experts. The machine is stripped of every part. Scores of accessories such as dynamos, coils, wheels and tyres are still serviceable. They are used to form components for another vehicle. Acetylene torches quickly cut through the twisted chassis and other metal parts. The different metals are sorted out in their various groups and sent off to the blast furnaces and smelters, from which they emerge in long strips or ingots, ready for use in the construction of another motor car, or of a locomotive or battleship.

#### Rubber

Among the articles of salvage, rubber today holds first place in value, and every effort is made to see that not one scrap is allowed to go to waste. When tyres reach the stage when they can no longer be repaired, they are melted down and the rubber obtained is put through chemical and manufacturing process. With comparatively small loss of the remaining original rubber, it becomes part of a good, serviceable tyre, capable of running many thousands of miles.

"Waste," as an operative word, is rapidly ceasing to exist in the Forces. Every sailor, soldier and airman is being made salvage-conscious, even to the extent of placing his empty cigarette tins or packets in a specially provided container. The tin will be de-tinned, the solder extracted and the remaining metal utilized, while the cigarette package will provide essential parts for bullets and shells.





AERIAL VIEW OF A "STICK" OF PARACHUTE TROOPS MAKING THEIR DESCENT

## THE PARACHUTIST M. O.

**M**edical officers literally "drop in" on their patients—from a height of five or six hundred feet—when the parachutists are in action, writes an Indian Army Observer who has just visited an airborne battalion in training somewhere in India.

Every parachutist unit has its own M.O., who accompanies the battalion even in practice descents. Equipped with surgical instruments, sterilisers and anaesthetics he has facilities to give almost any kind of medical attention. He even has medical orderlies who float down beside him.

In order to deal with casualties at night, the M.O. is equipped with a headlamp similar in appearance to that worn by miners, but equipped with a powerful light and special reflectors which eliminate shadow.

### A Marvellous Sensation

Although necessarily he must be young, the parachutist M.O. must be a capable surgeon—he cannot hope for the assistance of a second opinion in doubtful cases. Of course, outstanding physical fitness is the first essential in every member of an airborne battalion.

One of these M.O.'s with whom I chatted, continues the Indian Army Observer, was 26 years of age, a graduate of a famous

Scottish Medical School and a former high diving champion. Heights have always fascinated him and even now when he is not dropping from aircraft his hobby is climbing to the tops of high buildings and wireless masts.

### Parachutist's Duties

Concerning his duties as a parachutist M.O. he is more than enthusiastic. "The greatest sporting thrill imaginable," is how he described a jump, "and there is nothing to it really. You know the parachute will open and that no matter how you come out of the aircraft you will land safely and right side up. You just feel a tug as if someone had caught you by the collar and seat of the pants and picked you up. The act of floating gently down is a marvellous sensation and the ground appears to be coming slowly up to meet you.

"The force of impact when you hit the ground is comparatively light, about the same as jumping from a height of eight feet," he explained.

"Accidents are comparatively rare and never result from any defect in equipment. Occasional minor injuries, such as sprained ankles, etc., result from the carelessness of the parachutist in not carrying out the routine in which he has been instructed."

Describing the sensations of night descents the M.O. said that while more

## DEFENCE

difficult, they did not present any particular hazard.

The darkness is unrelieved until the parachutist is within a few feet of the ground. Then, through the blackness appears a lighter shade, which seems almost to glow. This alone indicates to the parachutist that he is within a few seconds of "touching down."

### ARMY'S AIR-CONDITIONING SCHEME

Air-conditioning is being undertaken on a big scale by the Military Medical Services in India. Most of the operating theatres now have air-conditioning plants, and authority has been obtained for the provision of air-conditioners or "desert coolers" for a proportion of the wards in every military hospital in the plains.

Soon two coaches on every ambulance train will be air-conditioned, and plants have already been installed in certain wards on hospital ships.

This is just one item among the vast new commitments of the Military Medical Service. A centrally controlled Army Medical Store Organisation to cater for the needs not only of the Army, but also of the Royal Indian Navy and the Indian Air Force, has been created in India to meet the ever growing demands. This service is directly responsible for provisioning, stock-holding, accounting and inspecting. In addition to its normal functions this young organisation has on occasions provided medical assistance for the American, Chinese and Russian armies.

### Over 300 Field Medical Units

More than 300 Field Medical Units have now been raised in India since the beginning of the war and are functioning in India, Ceylon, the Seychelles, Iran, Iraq, Palestine, East and West Africa, the Middle East and the United Kingdom. To appreciate this achievement fully, it must be remembered that, unlike other arms of the Defence Services, Field Units do not exist in peace-time and have to be raised and organised on the outbreak of hostilities to provide medical personnel and equipment for the rapidly expanding Army.

Another achievement has been the provision for the Broad, Standard and Metre Gauge railways in India and the Eastern Theatres of War, of ambulance trains fully equipped and manned by personnel from the Medical Services in India. Hospital ships for overseas casualties and a remarkably varied assortment of adapted craft have been employed on the waterways of Assam, Eastern Bengal, Iraq and Iran.

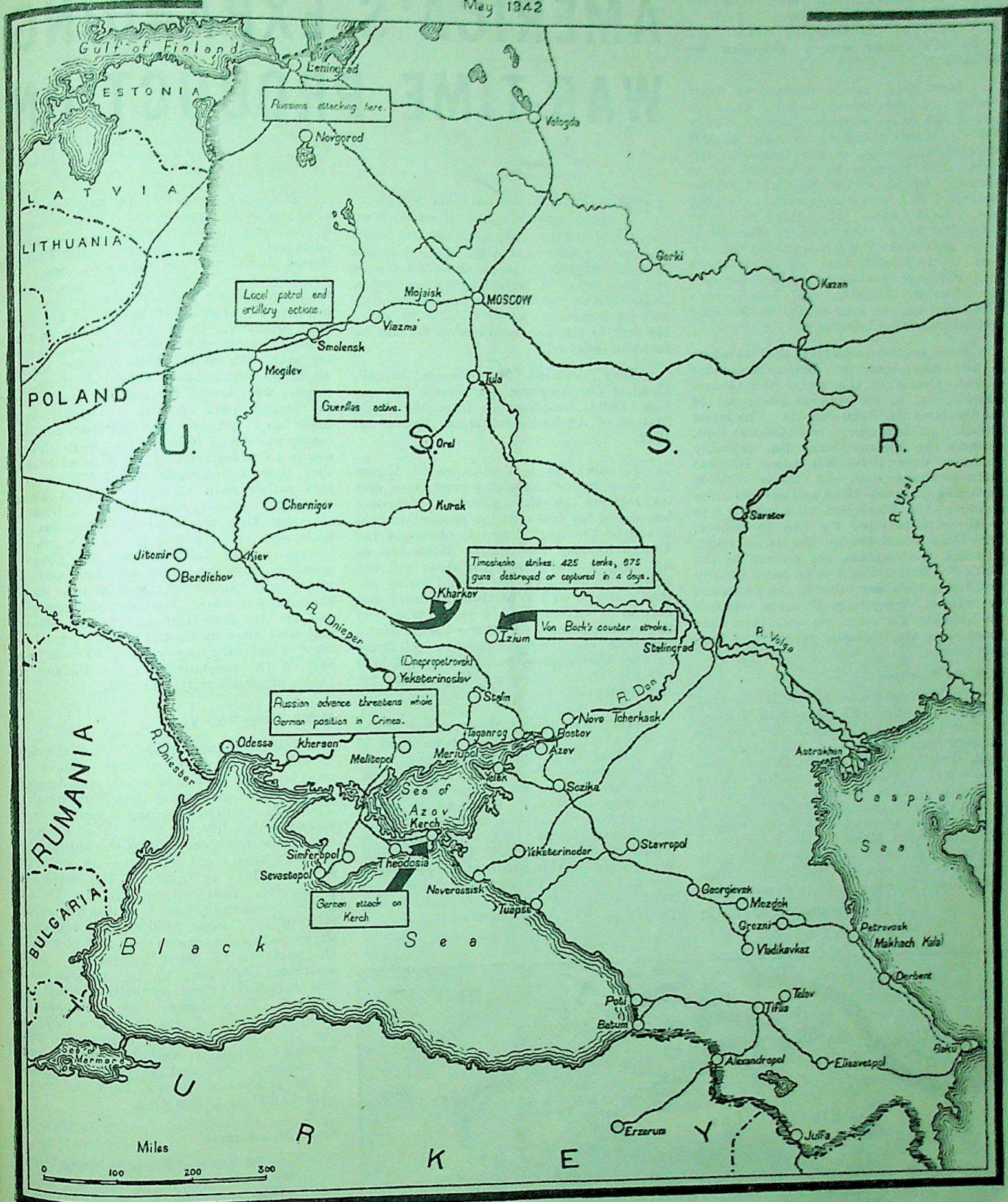
### NATIONAL PRAYER DAY

His Excellency the Viceroy appealed to the members of all communities in India to join with the people of the Empire in observing Sunday, September 6, being the Sunday following the third anniversary of the outbreak of the war, as a Day of National Prayer.



# RUSSIAN FRONT

May 1942



## RUSSIA'S OILFIELDS

The Northern Caucasian area has Orjonikidze as its capital; Grozny, Piatigorsk, Voroshilovsk (Stavropol) and the Caspian port of Mahachkala being other important centres. Only Grozny has a population of about 200,000, the other cities having 100,000 and less. This part of the Caucasus is mainly known for its oil and mining industry, and also for its medicinal springs—all over the Soviet Union one can see refrigerator wagons with the famous names of Narzan Essentuki and Borjom. The northern plains of this area, being subjected to hot, dry easterly winds, are not as fertile as the Don and Cuban regions, and irrigation work on a large scale is being carried out here.

The trans-Caucasian area, being shielded by the mountains in the north, has a much warmer climate and thus we find tea, tobacco, cotton, silk, grapes and wine industry in the south, which has become famous all over the Soviet Union. But the main export line is, of course, oil and manganese ore, the latter being railed from the Chiaty mines to the Black Sea port of Poti, whence it used to be shipped to the United States. There is also copper in Armenia. The Southern Caucasus has a population of about 7,000,000. The largest cities are: the capital Tiflis (400,000), Baku (700,000), Kutais, Batum, Poti, Erivan. Not far from Tiflis is the small city of Gori, where on December 21, 1879, was born



Joseph Djughashvili, who later took the name of Stalin, "Man of Steel." Tiflis is the capital of the Georgian S.S.R. and M. Stalin's father was a Georgian by nationality.

"More oil!" is the demand of every country of the world today. And the eyes of the entire world are directed today towards Russia's valiant defence, against overwhelming odds, of her Caucasian oilfields. The position in a nutshell is as follows: In 1939, of the world's 283,000,000 tons, the U.S.A. was leading with 171,000,000 tons. Next came the U.S.S.R. with 30,000,000 tons. According to the latest Soviet figures the U.S.S.R.'s output has now risen to 48,000,000 tons, of which about 7,000,000 only are to be divided between the Siberian, Sakhalin and Ishimbayevo (Ural) regions, the bulk of 41,000,000 being derived from the Caucasus.

There are three oilfields in the Caucasus: in the north-east the Maikop-Krasnodar oilfield, almost in the centre the Grozny oilfields, and in the extreme south-east of the Caucasus the Baku oilfields. The latter probably produce now over 30,000,000 tons, whereas the Maikop-Grozny line probably produces over 10,000,000 tons. Whereas Baku produces most, the Grozny oilfields have a higher grade of oil and are 200 miles nearer to the Black Sea, thus costing one to three roubles per ton less to deliver. The Maikop oilfields on the other hand, although the smallest, are nearest to the Black Sea and are said to be more rapidly developing than any other in the Caucasus, the output having risen 12 times, whereas the Caucasus's average has only risen four times since the beginning of the two five-year plans.

#### Multiple Pipelines

The Maikop-Krasnodar fields are connected by pipeline with the port of Tuapse, another pipeline linking them up with the Armavir junction through which runs the main Grozny-Armavir-Rostov-Donbas pipeline, which is said to be extended now to Voronezh. Thus, Grozny is connected through Armavir-Maikop with Tuapse. Another line running east from Grozny connects it with Mahach-Kala, the Caspian seaport, from where the oil is taken north in tankers to Astrakhan and up the Volga. Baku in the extreme south is situated right

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 311]

# AMERICA'S EXPANDING WAR-TIME PRODUCTION

"The United States has taken the offensive, not in a limited sense of an attack upon the enemy at one point, such as this recent campaign in the Solomon Islands. It has gone on the offensive in the large sense of mobilizing its manpower, its productive wealth, its farms, its factories, and its homes, so as to be able to carry the war to the enemy wherever he can be met and defeated."

Thus declared Mr. George Merrell, Head of the American Diplomatic Mission, New Delhi, broadcasting from the Delhi Station of All India Radio on August 24, 1942.

He said: It is a pleasure to discuss the question of American production and its relation to the American offensive because of the fact that the production field is one of the most dramatic phases of the United Nations' war effort. While we do not suggest that production alone will win a war, we feel that we should point out that victories on the battlefield can be won only after victories in the factories and on the assembly lines. Since the United States has been the largest peace-time producer in the world, it is perhaps natural that peculiar attention should be focussed on American production.

When war made production one of the steps to victory peace-time production in the United States became a major factor in the whole plan of military operations. Before the United States was attacked, as you may remember, President Roosevelt pointed out that the United States could and would become what he called the "arsenal of democracy." What the President meant by that was that the productive strength of the United States could and would be placed at the disposal of free peoples to defend their liberties.

In order to make this arsenal an effective producer under stress of war it was necessary to convert to military production the entire machinery normally devoted in the United States to the pursuits of peace. Some of you have heard of the task that was undertaken in making the American automobile industry a war producer instead of a peace-time producer. Prior to the attack on the Hawaii the automobile industry was producing each year in the United States about 40,000,000 automobiles. Some of these, of course, were trucks for industry itself, but the largest part of that production was made up of private passenger cars for the transportation of individual persons. Their use is so widespread in the United States that they were simply called "pleasure" cars rather than the more correct term, "private" motor cars. When it became apparent that the United States was to undertake the greatest production job in history, one of the first steps was the declaration that no more of these private motor cars would be manufactured until the war was over. That decision made it possible to take the automobile plants, and after allowing for the necessary production of military motor cars, to turn the rest of the machinery to the making of tanks, airplanes and munitions.

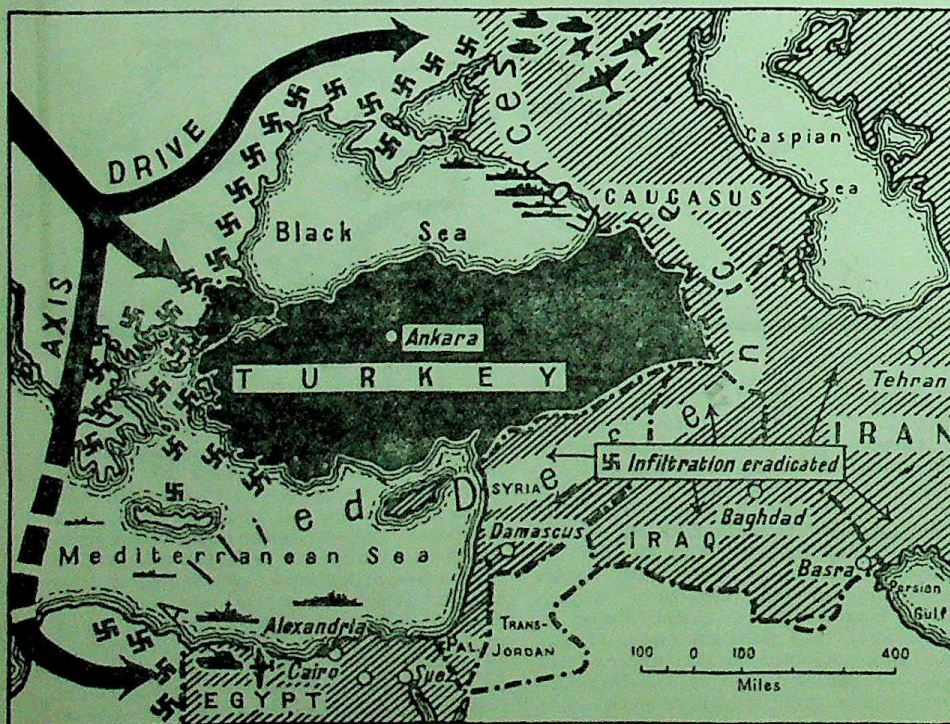
#### 45,000 Tanks This Year

The production of 40,000,000 motor cars in one year required a large number of tools specially designed to do the various jobs required in making those automobiles. The tools required to make a tank are, of course, quite different from those required to make a motor car. Thus the automobile industry was faced with the necessity of what is called "re-tooling." The method of production, what we call in the United States the assembly line, or as it is frequently referred to, "mass production," remained the same, but the various tools that fashioned the parts to be fitted together on those assembly lines had to be manufactured and installed before production could go forward. That change was accomplished within a period of less than five months. The American motor car industry is now sending tanks off its assembly lines, instead of pleasure cars, and in that one phase of its production it will turn out more than 45,000 tanks this year.

#### Plane Manufacture

Some of the motor car industry, however, was turned to other phases of production. This technique of rapid assembly was applied also to airplanes. In the ordinary way, a four-engine bombing plane would require some months to build. It has more than 1,50,000 separate parts that have to be put together. A change in design requires several miles of blue prints. The system that made the rapid manufacture of motor cars possible was turned also to the manufacture of airplanes. And, as a result, the time required for that complicated operation was reduced to a minimum. At present one finished airplane is going out of the factories and on to the runways every eight and one-half minutes.

In January of this year President Roosevelt stated that 60,000 planes would be produced this year. It seems apparent that this number will be exceeded.





## U. S. WAR EFFORT

One of the most interesting of these airplane assembly plants is that constructed at Willow Run, Michigan, by Henry Ford, who was one of the founders of mass production technique. Mr. Ford has built at Willow Run the largest single airplane factory in the world. The assembly line in that factory is about three-quarters of a mile long, and the factory itself covers 25,000,000 sq. feet of floor space; 1,000,000 workmen are employed there in turning out four-engine bombing planes. Those planes, with all their complicated parts, are now leaving that factory at the rate of one every hour.

But it was not only the automobile industry that was converted to military production. There are no more refrigerators being built in the United States. The electric refrigerator companies are now manufacturing airplane parts and munitions. No more radio receiving sets are being built for private use and radio manufacturing companies are now making such sets for the use of the army and navy, and are also manufacturing the delicate instruments that control planes, tanks and ships. A great company like the Baldwin Locomotive Company is still manufacturing locomotives at the rate of one a day, but in addition to that, is making steel plates for ships, shell cases and some heavy tanks.

All types, indeed, of peacetime manufacture have been converted to wartime production. The United States has normally 2,50,00,000 industrial workers. At the present time more than half of these 25 million are engaged directly in war production. By the first of next year 17 million will be producing for victory.

### Shipbuilding Industry

Now, of course, the United Nations are fighting their battles in all parts of the world, and American production could not contribute weapons of ultimate victory unless there were means to transport these materials to the various battle fronts. Accordingly, there has been also a revolution in the American shipbuilding industry. The building of ships is normally a very slow and painstaking process. Ordinarily, even the simplest ocean-going freighter requires at least five months for completion. The larger and more complicated ships may frequently require more than a year in building. It has long been the practice to connect the steel plates that form the hulls of these ships by riveting them together. This means that on every ship hundreds and hundreds of thousands of rivets have to be driven and each rivet requires a special operation by one man to fit it into place.

Again, using the technique of mass production, American shipbuilders have discarded this practice and are putting these plates together by welding instead of riveting, and in some cases actually casting whole parts of the ships. By using methods such as these, the shipbuilders have been able to cut the time used in the production of a freighter from 156 days to 42 days, and they promise to reduce this even further.

### Combating Submarine Menace

At the present time there are three ships being launched every day in the United States. By the first of the next year those launchings will take place at the rate of four a day. That means that during the next year the United States will be able to produce even more merchant ships than were in the entire great British merchant marine before the war.

Recently another very important development has entered the field of transportation. Because of the menace of submarines it has been decided to build airplanes for the transport of cargo. These are huge flying-boats capable of carrying 50 tons at a time. The programme has now been outlined whereby these great flying boats will be produced in quantity, and will supplement the new victory fleet in carrying the American materials of war to the various battle fronts.

### Food For Victory

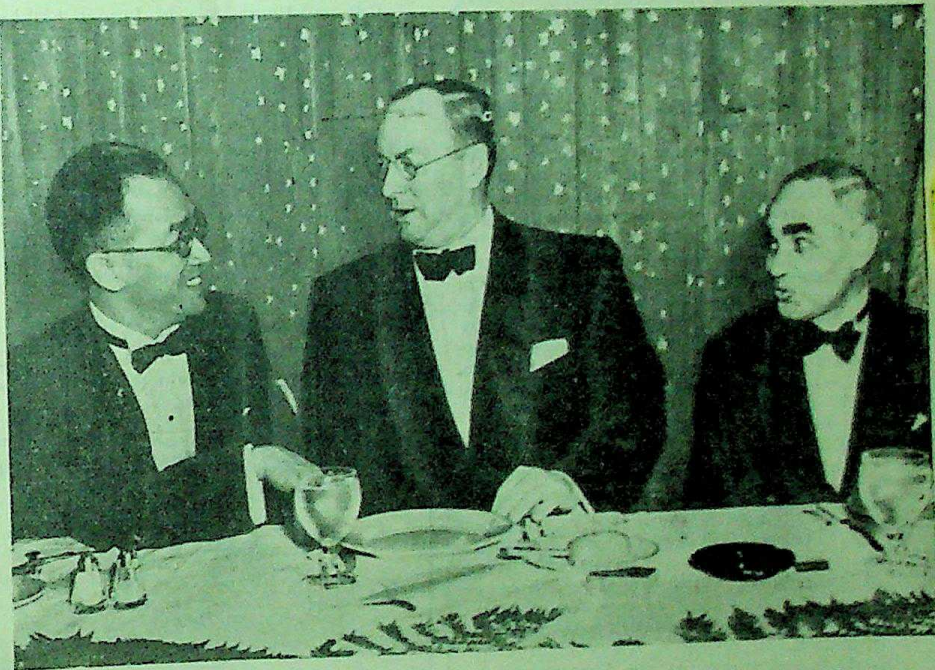
The United States has taken the offensive also in the important field of producing food, not only for her armies, but for distressed and needy persons throughout the world. There are 60,00,000 fertile farms in the United States and 3,00,00,000 farmers live on them. They have organised themselves in what they call the "Food for Victory" campaign, and are undertaking to increase the already large output of their farms. Normally, the United States produces much more food than the inhabitants can consume. Wheat, fruit, meat, vegetables, eggs and milk are shipped to all parts of the world.

Now the American farmers are undertaking greatly to increase the output of all of these commodities so that the food

will be available, not only during the war, but for the rehabilitation of distressed areas as soon as our victory is won. The quantity of food that can be produced is almost unbelievable. In the matter of eggs, for example, the United States is producing this year in the "Food for Victory" campaign, 4,00,00,00,000 dozen eggs. Similarly, the United States is producing this year 63,00,00,00,000 litres of milk.

And so the United States has taken the offensive, not in a limited sense of an attack upon the enemy at one point, such as this recent campaign in the Solomon Islands. It has gone on the offensive in the large sense of mobilizing its manpower, its productive wealth, its farms, its factories, and its homes, so as to be able to carry the war to the enemy wherever he can be met and defeated.

The United States is on the offensive not only in the military sense. It is taking the offensive in the spiritual sense. The United States has identified its cause and aims with the United Nations. The pledge to the fulfilment of those aims has been given. From that pledge there will be no turning back. The organised strength of aroused Americans has gone on the offensive, and it will stay on the offensive until the ultimate and inevitable victory is won.



Dr. Hu Shih (left), till lately Chinese Ambassador in U.S., Mr. Donald Nelson (centre), Head of the U.S. War Production Board, and Sir G. S. Bajpai at the annual banquet of the American Society of Newspaper Editors in New York

## SIR G. S. BAJPAI ON INDIA'S ROLE IN POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION

The Agent-General for India in the United States, Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, in a speech on July 30, at the World Federation of Educational Associations meeting in Washington, said:

"Along with free China, free India may be relied upon to play in the economic reconstruction after the war a world role commensurate with her resources."

"In the new international regime which all free men hope will emerge from our victory, in order to preserve both moral and material security in a decent world, India will play a role commensurate with her immemorial tradition of serene and immutable loyalty to the cause of peace and goodwill among men."



# SIR JOGENDRA SINGH REVIEWS FOOD SITUATION IN INDIA



SIR JOGENDRA SINGH

The Hon'ble Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh, Member for Education, Health and Lands, declaring open the first meeting of the Central Food Advisory Council at New Delhi on August 24, 1942, said :

I am indebted to my predecessor, the Hon'ble Mr. N. R. Sarker, for initiating the "Grow More Food" campaign and for the formation of the Food Advisory Council. It is my privilege and pleasure to welcome you here today, particularly representatives of Agriculture, Banking and Commerce, who responded so readily to my belated invitation to give the Council the benefit of their advice and experience. I propose that we agree to co-opt them as members of the Council.

We have met here today to review the food position, and to work out a programme to intensify an all-out food drive with no other object but to conserve and strengthen our food resources.

I am not going to make a long speech. I will just give you a bare outline of the scope and magnitude of the problem, so that we may pool our knowledge, in the interests of our increasing population and our fighting forces, who have covered themselves with glory.

## Most Encouraging Response

The way the Provinces and States have responded to our call to grow more food is clear evidence of the recognition of the integral economic unity of India and the need of a co-ordinating and vitalising centre to serve and promote the larger interests of Provinces and States.

The response from the Provinces and States has been spontaneous and most encouraging. They have implemented without delay the recommendations of the Food Production Conference held in April last. They have launched the food drive with great energy and carried our message to grow more food to the villages and the town. They have offered inducements by making important concessions, such as reduction in irrigation rates, reservation—as far as possible—of canal water exclusively for food crops, allotment of rent and revenue-free fallow and waste lands and by distribution of manures, such as bone-meal and oil-cake, and improved seed, and above all provision of taccavi loans of more than a crore of rupees.

This Food Advisory Council, in spite of its inherent limitations, has a wide scope of usefulness, which would continue to broaden in the light of our deliberations. It shall be my endeavour, with your co-operation, to create a reservoir of information and energy at the Centre with no other purpose than to assist the Provinces and States in the solution of the problems of production as they arise.

## Central Government's Grants

The Government of India have not been slow in taking their share and shouldering responsibility. They had foreseen the loss of Japanese market for short-staple cotton and they took steps to create a Fund by the levy of an additional duty on imports of raw cotton to finance measures for the benefit of cotton growers, particularly by offering to help them to effect the change-over from a cash to a food crop.

We are now making grants from this Fund to Provinces in respect of lands diverted from cotton to food or fodder crops, provided that the subsidy reaches the cultivator. Grants have already been made to

four Provinces and three States, and all applications for grants on these conditions will receive favourable consideration up to the extent of the funds available.

Then, again, the Government of India have announced their acceptance in principle of the recommendation of the Food Production Conference that they would buy sufficient quantities of foodstuffs both in Provinces and States, to prevent a serious fall in prices, to assure the cultivators that it is our best endeavour to promote and protect their interests.

Broadly, an increased food production can be achieved in three different ways :—

- (a) By placing under crop all cultivable waste land ;
- (b) By replacement of non-food crops, such as short-staple cotton, raw jute, etc., by food crops ; and
- (c) By increasing the yield per acre by intensive cultivation, for example, by more extensive use of improved quality seeds, and adequate application of manures.

It is anticipated that 50 lakh acres of land which was under short-staple cotton and raw jute will now be used for raising food crops, distributed between the Provinces as follows :—

C.P. and Berar 12 lakhs, Punjab 4 lakhs, Bombay 8 lakhs, Bengal 6 lakhs, Hyderabad 8 lakhs, Assam and Bihar 5½ lakhs, Baroda 1½ lakhs, Patiala 1·3 lakhs, Bhavnagar 1½ lakhs, Junagadh 1½ lakhs.

Then there are about 10½ crore acres of land described as cultivable waste. The figures given are not complete, and accurate knowledge of soil and other conditions is not available. It is hoped that at least fifty lakh acres out of this area would be brought under cultivation. I devoutly wish that this hope would be fulfilled, but I have grave doubts as to its fulfilment.

## Normal Food Requirements

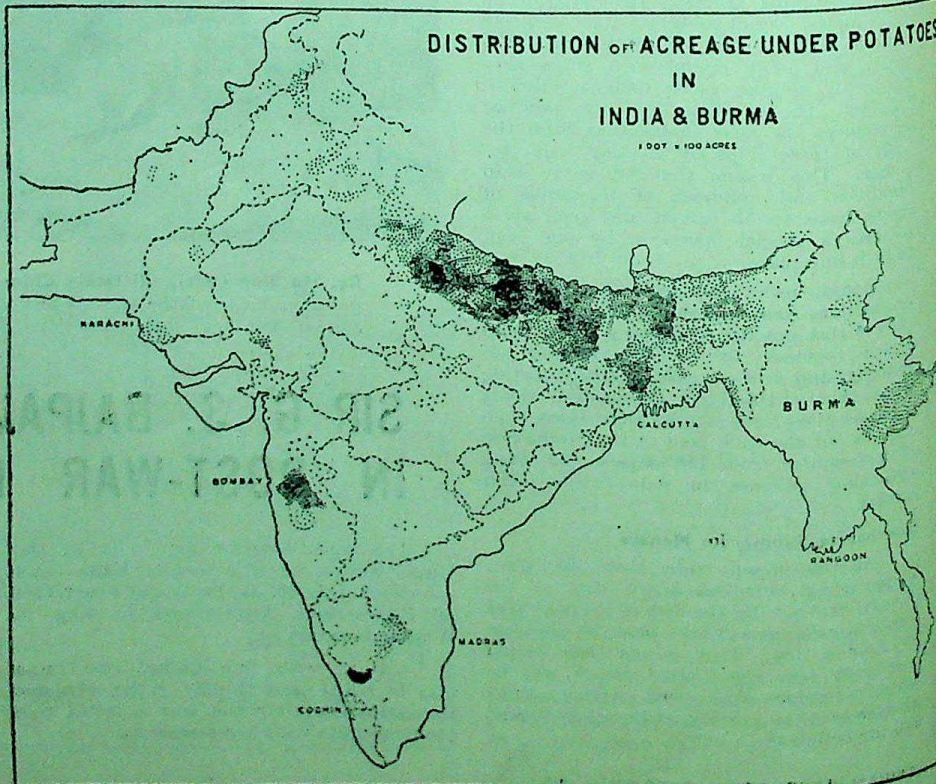
I feel our best effort should be to concentrate on increasing production from areas already under cultivation.

May I now present a rough sketch of our normal food requirements combined with the effect of closing down of our long established import and export markets and the rising demand of our defence services ?

It would be idle to conceal that even in times of peace, balanced diet is not available for the common mass of the people. Our total population of 388 millions can be divided into 278 million adults and 110 million children. A well-balanced diet, according to Dr. Aykroyd and Sir John Russell, should consist of :—

15 oz. of cereals, 3 oz. of pulses, 10 oz. of vegetables, 2 oz. of fats and oils, 2 oz. of fruits, and 8 oz. of milk, making 40 oz. per day per head of population. The actual requirements, therefore, would be :

	Ideal requirements	Actual production	Deficit or surplus (in lakhs of tons)
Cereals ..	503	600	+97
Milk ..	365	228	—137
Pulses ..	101	103	+2





# EDUCATION-HEALTH-LANDS

The figures relating to fruits and vegetables are not available. It is, however, generally true that vegetable production is much below the prescribed standard. There is adequate production of cereals (inclusive of potatoes) and pulses to meet the needs of our population, while the supply of milk is altogether inadequate.

## Need To Increase Milk Supply

There is undoubtedly an urgent need to increase our milk supply and to grow more vegetables. The milk supply can only be achieved by providing proper feeding and breeding arrangements. I can say from my experience that it is possible to reduce the present stock and almost double the milk supply by following modern methods of animal husbandry. The bullock is our best instrument of production and it is essential to preserve our stock and to create fodder reserves in this year of abundant grass.

This is, however, a digression. The problem for you to consider is how to meet the requirements of our population and of the fighting forces, particularly in view of the shortage in rice ranging round 22 lakh tons as a result of closing down the sluices of supply from Burma and bad harvests in some areas.

We need not, however, be alarmed, as seasonal variations in some years have been large and in the year 1940-41 ranged round 44 lakh tons. The present shortage as compared with our total annual production of 264 lakh tons and variations, which have been experienced before, is not too large.

It is anticipated that an additional  $8\frac{1}{2}$  lakh tons of rice would be produced as a result of our campaign and other measures and the deficit in 1943-44 would be reduced

to 11 lakh tons, provided we continue to be favoured to the end of the season by the monsoon as hitherto.

The normal production of wheat ranges round 100 lakh tons, and the last harvest yielded about 100.7 lakh tons, which would more than cover our normal consumption of about 99 lakh tons, but falls short of our estimated total war-time requirements of about 104 lakh tons. It is expected that in the next year, wheat production will be increased by about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  lakh tons as a result

of our production drive: so no deficit is anticipated in 1943-44.

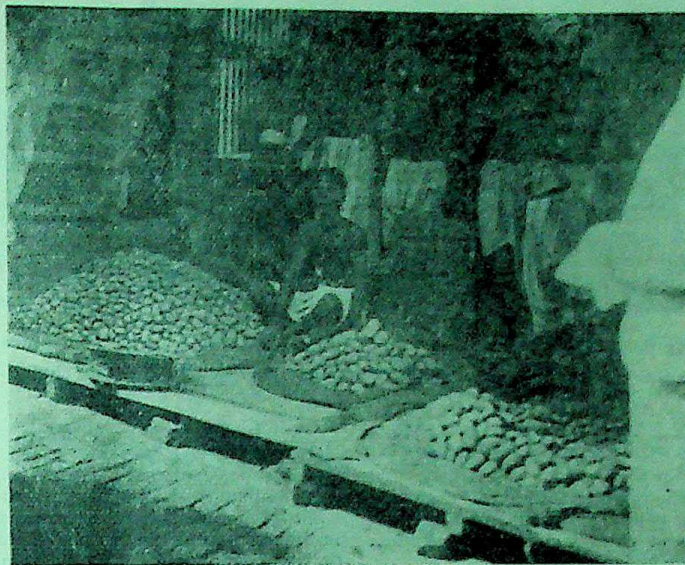
The wheat position has been aggravated at present by transport difficulties and the natural tendency of the producer to hoard the surplus. I feel confident that there can be no scarcity in the towns if we can coax the hoardings into the market. I can speak with some confidence that there is no immediate possibility of a shortage. The early rice crop will be coming into the market and should give 90 lakh tons. This would be followed by jowar (65 lakh tons), bajra (25 lakh tons), maize (20 lakh tons). We should get 110 lakh tons of these three crops. Thus, whatever the prospect may be from January to March 1943 for wheat and March to August 1943 for rice, the present position ought not to be one of much anxiety.

On the basis of our present estimates it is expected that during the current year we will have a net increase of nearly  $8\frac{1}{2}$  to 9 lakh tons in bajra and jowar production over their normal output. People should be encouraged to eat more millets during this period. The only factor which is likely to operate against increased consumption of millets is the cheapness of wheat as compared with the price of millets.

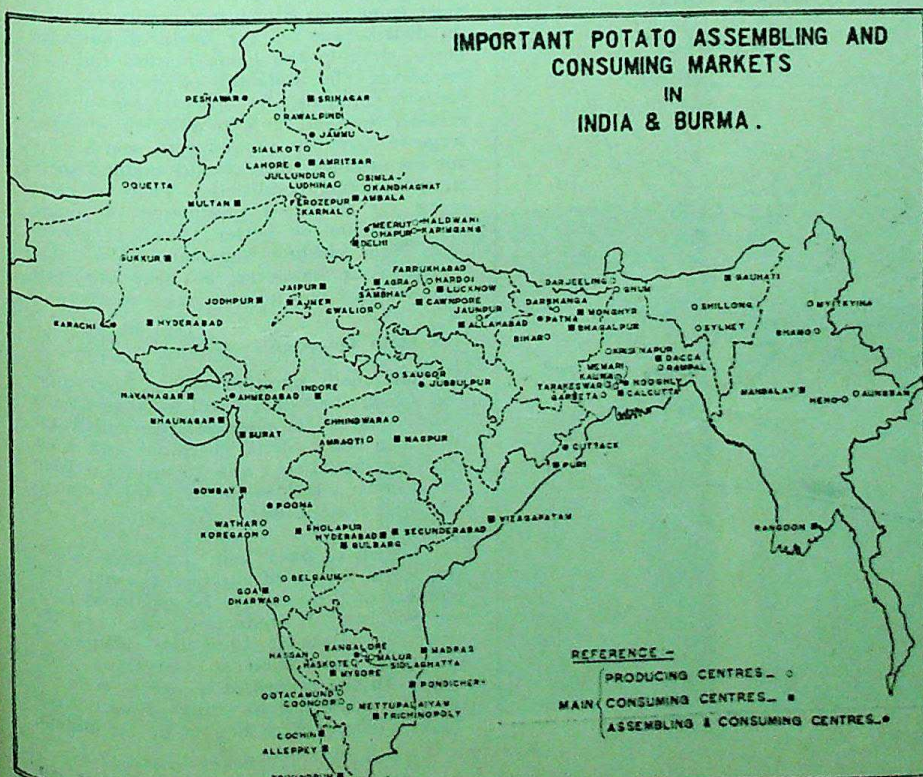
## Grim Possibilities

I do not wish to give an impression that all is well in this best of all worlds: indeed it is not. We may at any moment be faced with scarcity in particular areas, on account of trade ceasing to function, further curtailment of transport facilities, increased demand for defence services. I would, therefore, earnestly request this Council to approach the problems in full realisation of these grim possibilities. We have no alternative but to plan ahead to meet our changing and increasing requirements, otherwise we may find ourselves in difficulties.

In the agenda which you have before you, there is a number of problems for consideration. It is on a practical and satisfactory solution of these that the



POTATOES SORTED INTO DIFFERENT SIZES BY A RETAIL DEALER

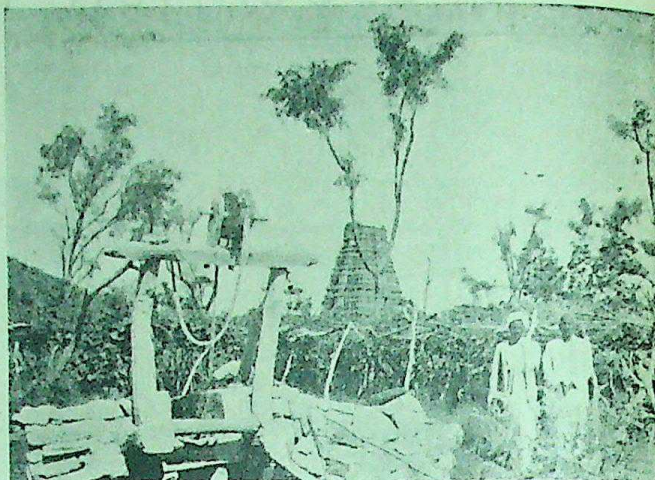




## Cultivation Of Grapes In India—



In Bombay Presidency, grape vines are planted in parallel rows about 8 feet apart. A *pangara* supports each vine



Vines are trained on high pandals supported by wooden poles in the arbour system adopted in Penukonda, Madras Presidency

success of the "grow more food" campaign will largely depend. I would briefly touch upon some of them which in my opinion deserve more serious consideration.

### The Manure Problem

It is of supreme importance, both for increasing the present yield and conserving the future fertility of the soil, that the Provincial and State authorities should explore and exploit all the possible sources of cheap and economic manure. Compost making and conversion of town refuse into manure are directions which may offer fruitful results. We may start investigations if it is possible to use some crop or jungle growth giving the heaviest bulk in raw material per acre, which could be used to increase the material available for composting.

India annually produces nearly 14½ lakh tons of oilcake which is an excellent manure.

The amount available at present may be slightly more, as happily larger quantities of oil seeds are being crushed in the country and we export much less of this valuable commodity, which provides food for man, cattle and the soil. I would therefore urge the Provincial and State Governments to examine the feasibility of purchasing all the surplus oilcakes and distributing them among the cultivators on a large scale, partly as manure and partly as a cattle-feed. There is another source which can be developed. We produce on an average 21 lakh tons of cotton seed. Only a fraction of this is crushed in the Punjab. If all the seed was crushed it would yield 18 lakh tons of oilcake, which at the rate of half a ton to the acre, could manure 36 lakh acres and increase production from this area by 35 per cent. There is great scope for developing our oil industry and making use of our credits which lie idle in banks.

Another problem to which sufficient attention has not been given is to arrange for proper storage of grain and prevent the enormous loss caused by rats, insects and fungi. I am glad to say that a good deal of work has been done in this matter in the Punjab by the Entomology Section.

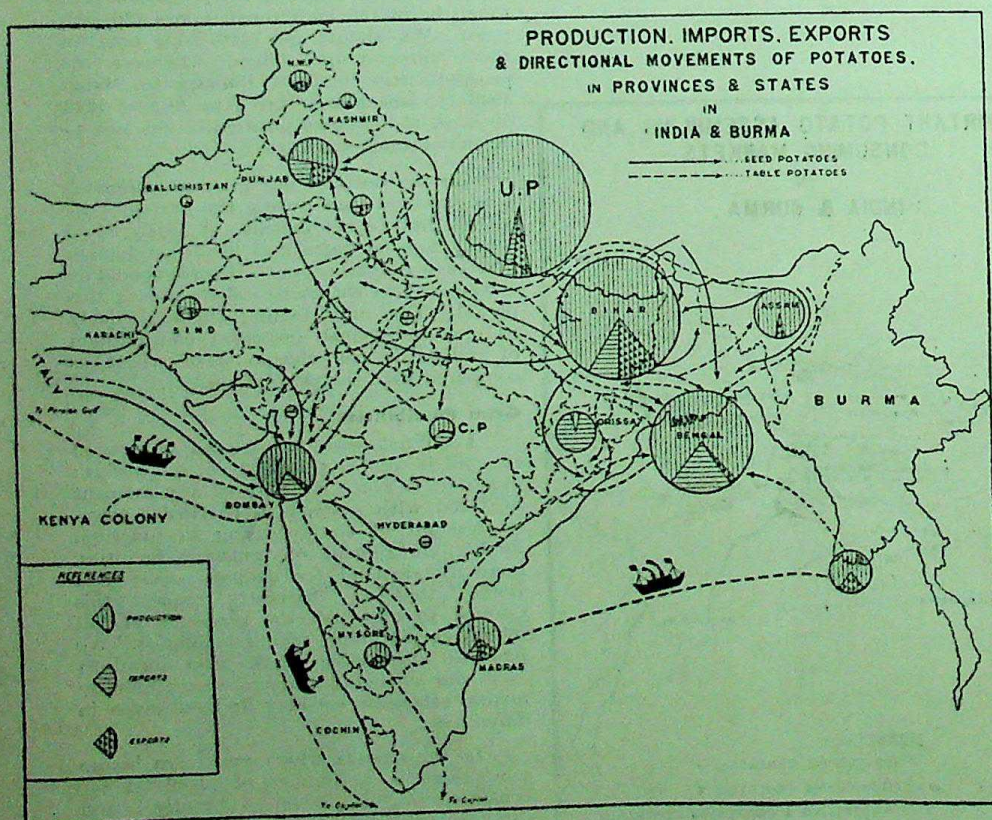
There is greater need also to improve the production, maintenance and regulation of protective and nutritive foods, such as milk, eggs, vegetables and fruits. The advisability to ensure adequate fodder supply for the livestock is no less important, and an examination of the present arrangements by which the urban areas get their milk supplies with a view to preventing any interruption of these essential supplies in an emergency, seems to me too obvious to need elaboration.

Finally, although it does not immediately concern this Council, we must not forget the economic consequences of a prolonged war, the loss of old markets, and the need of securing new, the post-war unemployment and depression, which must follow. We must from now adjust our production and its distribution on the basis of our own needs, develop the home market fully by improving the standard of living of our teeming millions, by maintaining an increased flow of money, allowing a living wage to agricultural producers, and a price for his produce which would enable him to improve living conditions. There is great scope for increased production of longer staple cotton or better type of tobacco and high yielding sugarcane. We must develop our industries so that our raw produce may find a ready home market.

### The Main Question

The main question which must arise and which the Council will have to face is what would be the position of the cultivator after the cessation of hostilities and what steps we should take now to save him from the disaster which swept over the country-side after the last war.

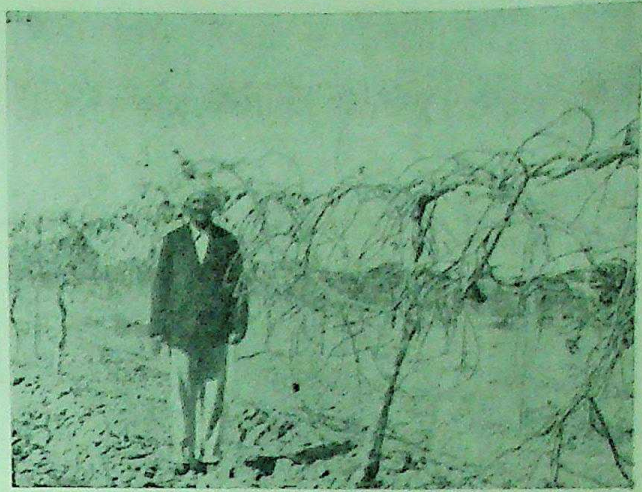
I wish to draw your attention to one very vital aspect of rural economics. The problem of price cannot be separated from the problem of production, nor can the prices be divorced from the volume of money in circulation at any time. Any change in the reward of labour in terms of money cannot fail to affect prices. When larger volume of money is in circulation,







In Baluchistan, vines are grown in trenches  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet deep running parallel to each other and trained on the ridges between the trenches



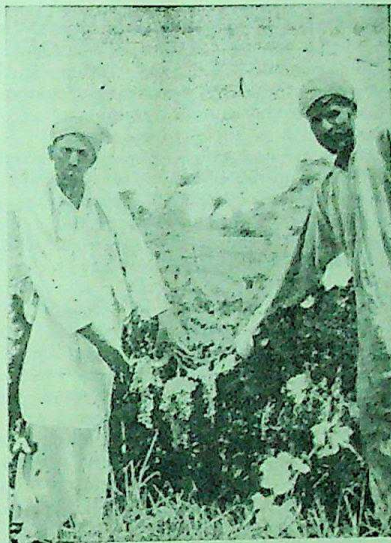
Vineyard in Mirpurkhas, Sind. Here imported vines are trained on wire trellises. This system is also adopted in Nasik

the purchasing power of money goes down and its consequence is a rise in prices. As the Governor of the Reserve Bank observes, the inevitable result of the large purchases made by the British Government in India, for which they give us sterling, which we exchange for rupees, is an increase in money. Unless increased supplies are available, there is bound to be an increase in prices of commodities. Other factors inescapable in war have accentuated the position. This vital factor should always be taken into account while controlling the prices of agricultural commodities: otherwise control of prices will have adverse reactions on the agriculturist's willingness to grow more food.

Gentlemen, I will not detain you any longer, but would invite you to discuss the problem freely and frankly, to take your full share in devising a well-considered plan to meet the present and future requirements. It shall be my sincere desire to act in the light of your experience and with the co-operation of producers and dealers to banish scarcity and to secure an even flow of commodities from one Province to another.

### COUNCIL'S DECISIONS

After the opening speech by the Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh, Chairman, the Council proceeded to discuss the various



In N.-W.F.P. vines are trained on a low pandal known as "manna" or "chappar"



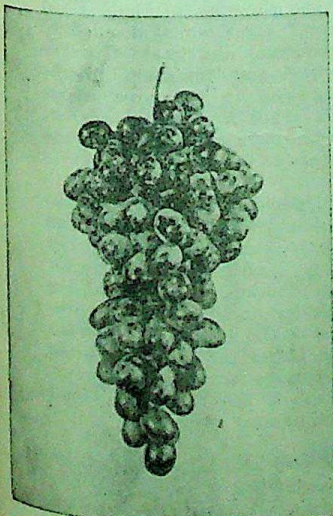
Vines are also trained on mulberry trees in some parts of Baluchistan

items on the agenda. The Council also met on the following day, the Hon'ble Member presiding. At the instance of the Hon'ble Member the following five new members were co-opted to the Council with a view

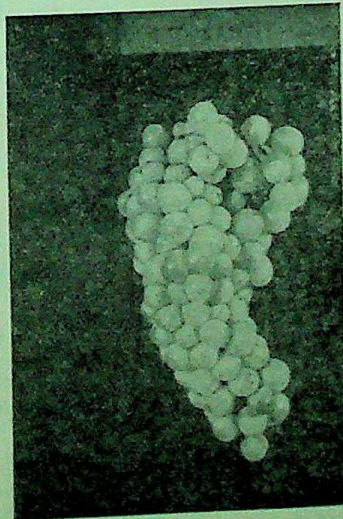
to making it more representative of producing, banking and commercial interests:—

Mr. F. I. Rahimtoola, C.I.E.  
Sirdar Vivek Singh.  
Sir William Roberts, C.I.E.

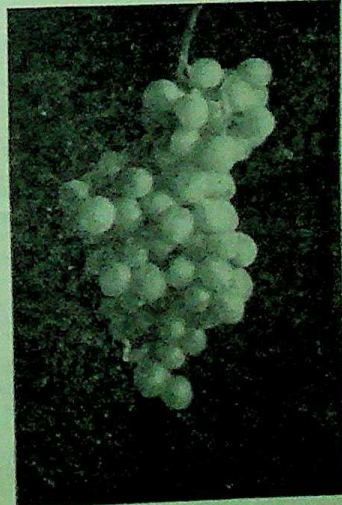
### Varieties Of Grapes—



KHAIR-E-GHULAMAN



LAL



THASS



KUDDAK





SORTING AND GRADING OF GRAPES



THIS IS HOW GRAPES ARE PACKED IN NASIK

A representative of the Imperial Bank of India, and

A representative of the Central Bank of India.

#### Manure Supplies

The Council reviewed the progress of the "Grow More Food" campaign and felt that great emphasis should be laid on the provision of manure to cultivators which was by far the most promising method of increasing food production. It was also recommended that in order to give adequate incentive to the cultivators to expand the area and output of food crops, it was essential to inspire confidence in them that a reasonable level of prices would be maintained, and it was suggested that this could not be achieved except by an announcement by the Government of India that they would purchase stipulated quantities of food grains at declared prices, in the event of the prices tending to fall below the pre-determined level.

In the opinion of the Council present difficulties, especially in respect of wheat, were largely due to a tendency on the part of the cultivators and dealers to hold back stocks from the market. After examining various suggestions for inducing cultivators to give up hoarding the Council felt that price control should be continued in the present circumstances but with the following modifications, with a view to ensuring free sales of all the available produce by the cultivators and dealers:—

- (1) Price control should be extended to cover all the staple food grains which are competitive, regard being had to their normal price parity, the rising cost of production and other factors that govern price, with the object of giving the grower a fair deal.
- (2) A single agency should purchase the requirements for the Army and the deficit areas and such agency should have the monopoly of available wagon supplies for the inter-provincial movement of foodstuffs.
- (3) Control should be extended to retail prices by way of laying down permissible margins in different areas.

The Council also recommended that data regarding the approximate quota of foodstuffs to be moved from one region to another may be worked out in the light of the food position in the country as a whole for the information of the War Transport Department who should be requested

to arrange their wagon allocation programme on the basis of such data.

In view of the large-scale purchases of foodstuffs for the Defence Services, the Council recommended to the Defence authorities to examine the feasibility of distributing their purchases over a number of surplus regions with a view to relieving pressure on transport and also to purchase a portion of their requirements in those areas where, due to the suspension of normal transport and trade facilities as a result of the defence strategy or because of their vulnerability to enemy action, surpluses are likely to accumulate.

In order further to increase the total area available for food production the Council decided to request the Provincial and State Governments to examine the extent of the old fallow lands lying idle, to investigate the causes of their being abandoned by cultivators and to take necessary remedial measures and steps for bringing them under cultivation.

The Council decided to appoint a sub-committee to examine all the available sources of manure with a view to their fullest possible utilisation and pending such examination, decided to recommend to the Provincial and State Governments to encourage compost-making, to ask major municipalities to convert town refuse into fertilisers and to purchase and distribute oilcakes amongst cultivators at concessional rates.

#### Vegetables And Eggs

The Council considered the growing scarcity of vegetables and eggs in the country and decided to request the Provincial and State Governments to organise a planned drive to encourage the production of vegetables on all available spare strips of land in the vicinity of urban areas by provision of such concessions as free distribution of seed, reduced water supply rates, etc. and to make suitable arrangement for their disposal. It was also suggested that Provincial and State authorities should take steps to ensure regular supply of milk to urban areas and to remove all restrictions such as octroi duty and other local imposts which impede the free movement of milk into cities.

To meet the shortage of rice in the country as a whole, consequent on the cessation of Burma imports, the Council decided to recommend to Provincial and State Governments in areas where rice was in short supply, to urge people to consume less of rice and more of millets with a view to tiding over the shortage and also to popularise, with the help of

their agricultural staff and nutrition experts a more balanced diet consisting of rice, vegetables and millets instead of a simple diet of rice.

The Council considered the transport situation in the country which was becoming increasingly more difficult and to relieve the situation decided to recommend that the Provincial and State Governments should be moved to take steps systematically to organise indigenous means of transport such as bullock carts and country boats for facilitating the internal and long-distance haulage of foodstuffs, the long-distance haulage being arranged by a continuous and point-to-point bullock cart transport service.

With a view to securing the co-operation of the cultivators to the fullest extent possible, the Council recommended the setting up of village, tehsil, district and provincial committees consisting of village elders, as may be deemed suitable, on the lines of the County War Agricultural Committees in the United Kingdom.

In view of the large-scale increase in the demand for meat due to exigencies of War, the Council decided to request the authorities concerned to examine the desirability of prohibiting the slaughter of the following classes of cattle in order to prevent permanent damage to the cattle wealth of the country:—(1) Working bullocks in good health below ten years of age, (2) Cows in milk, (3) Pregnant cows.

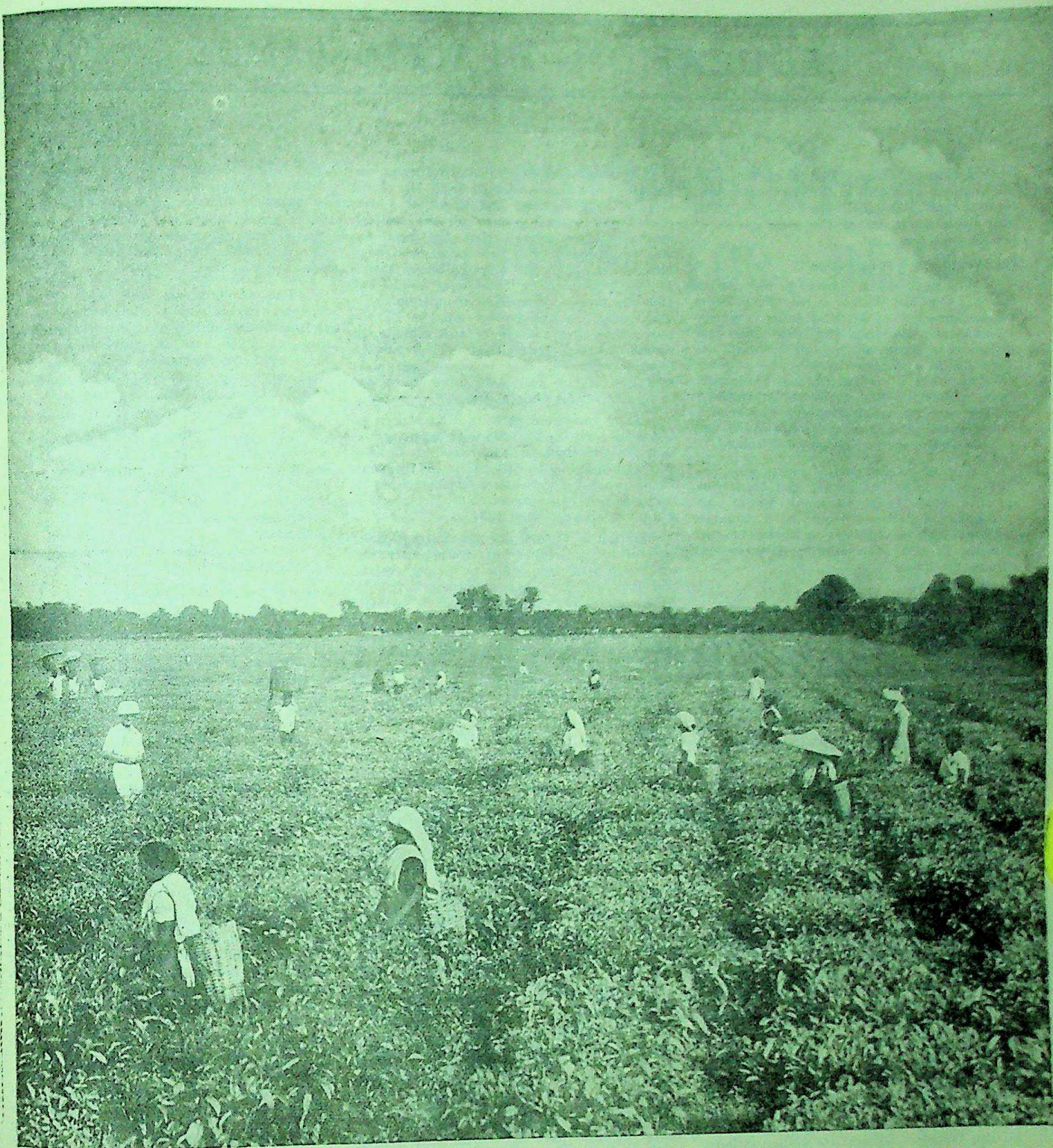
#### Preparation Of Graphs

To facilitate the collection of information regarding the progress of the "Food Production Drive," the Council decided to request the Provincial and State Governments to prepare and maintain graphs showing the increase in the area under food and fodder crops from year to year, taking the acreage under such crops in the three pre-war years as the basis.

The Council decided to inquire of the plantation estates owners whether and how far they have taken steps to utilise the available waste land in their estates for increasing food production. In their opinion it was not necessary at this stage to promulgate an Order on the lines of the 'Ceylon Food Production Order (Estates)' requiring the plantation estates to devote a prescribed proportion of the cultivated land to the production of food crops.

The Council terminated its proceedings with a brief concluding speech by the Hon'ble Member for Education, Health and Lands, who thanked the Members for the assistance that they had given.





The experimental cultivation of tea in India was undertaken by the Government in 1834, in pursuance of a recommendation made by Lord William Bentinck, the then Governor-General. Here women labourers are at work in an Indian tea garden.

# ORIGIN OF TEA IN INDIA

Lord William Bentinck's part in the starting of what is now one of India's most important industries is described in a paper on the introduction of the tea plant into India read by Mr. B. B. Chakrabarti, B.A., B.L., at the 18th meeting of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

The experimental cultivation of tea in India was undertaken by Government in 1834, though the matter had been under consideration for many years. Sir Joseph Banks, President of the Royal Society, in a letter dated November 25, 1788, remarked that the lama of Tibet or his people might be induced on proper terms

to procure not only tea plants but a colony of the Chinese skilled in the cultivation of tea for the introduction of the plant into India. Lt.-Col. R. Kyd, Superintendent of the Botanical Gardens of Calcutta, asked Mr. Marsh for a report on the suitability of the frontier for tea cultivation.

In 1793, Lord Macartney sent some plants from China to Bengal, in some parts of which he had been informed there were districts adapted for their cultivation.

Robert Bruce, who was the Agent in turn of Purandar Singh and Chandrakanta, two chiefs of Assam, discovered that the tea plant grew wild in the upper part of the



# EDUCATION-HEALTH-LANDS

Brahmaputra Valley. Plants obtained at his instance were sent in 1826 to the Superintendent of Botanical Gardens, Calcutta, and declared to be of the same genus as the Chinese tea plant.

## Mr. Walker's "Proposition"

Not until 1834, however, was action taken. One Mr. Walker in his "Proposition to the Directors of the East India Company to cultivate tea upon the Nepal hills and such other parts of the territories of the East India Company as may be suitable to its growth" mentioned that the closed door policy of the Chinese Government of the time caused uncertainty with regard to supplies of a commodity to which the people of Britain had become habituated.

He pointed out that, if grown in India, the consumption of tea in the territories of the East India Company would be prodigious and that it would be a valuable addition to the domestic economy of the Hindus as well as a salutary beverage in times of sickness.

Mr. Walker continued: "It is not perhaps possible upon the face of the globe to find a country so admirably situated as the districts of India, where the soil, climate, and low price of labour, combined with the quiet and peaceable habits of the neighbouring population, offer such a concurrence of circumstances favourable to the undertaking."

Besides obtaining good tea and making Britain independent of the Chinese monopoly, Mr. Walker stressed that the proposed undertaking would mean employment for many Indians, mentioning that the import of English cloth had hit Indian weavers badly. It would also provide the East India Company with a means of bringing home their territorial revenues.

## Lord Bentinck's Minute

Soon after coming to India as Governor-General, Lord William Bentinck recorded a minute on the subject dated January 24, 1834, saying "the subject was first urged upon my notice in London..... by a very intelligent gentleman of the name of Walker, whose memorandum I submit for the perusal of the Board."

The "Proposition" of Mr. Walker as well as the "Observation on the cultivation of tea plant for commercial purposes in the mountainous parts of Hindustan," prepared by N. Wallich at the request of the President of the Board of Control for Indian Affairs, led Lord William Bentinck to take action. "I, therefore, now most strongly and confidently recommend that the attempt should be made; and I propose that a committee, of which I will present a list hereafter, shall be formed, for the purpose of submitting to Government a plan for the accomplishment of the object and for the superintendence of its execution."

The Governor-General felt that the difficulty of obtaining access to the tea growing countries could be overcome by sending an intelligent agent to Penang and Singapore who, "in conjunction with the authorities there and the most intelligent of the Chinese agents, should concert measures for obtaining the genuine plant and the actual cultivators, who..... shall then be employed under the promise of a liberal remuneration to carry on the cultivation. For this job Lord William suggested the name of Mr. Gordon of the late firm of Mackintosh and Co.

A Committee of eleven Europeans and two Indians was appointed with Mr. G. T. Gordon as Secretary, and this body, after considering several papers on the subject, expressed the opinion that the best tea was produced in the provinces of Keung-Nau and Fukien. In a letter dated March 15, 1834, they say: "We may safely say that the proposed experiment may be made with great probability of success in the lower hills and valleys of the Himalayan range. Next to them, those of our eastern frontier offer the best prospect and after them the Nilgiris and other lofty mountains in Southern and Central India."

They suggested sending Mr. Gordon to China as early as possible with an introduction to the British authorities at Canton and with \$20,000 to \$25,000 at his disposal. They felt that the number of Chinese to be brought need not exceed 50. Mr. Gordon went to China in June 1834.

In the meantime the Committee learnt beyond all possibility of doubt that the tea shrub was indigenous to Upper Assam and deputed three medical men to go to Assam and collect all the botanical, geological and other details required prior to cultivation. Mr. C. A. Bruce was put in charge of nurseries to be established at Sadiya with an establishment to search the jungles for indigenous tea plants. A supply of Chinese tea seed and young plants was received from Mr. Gordon at about the same time, November 1834.

Land was offered by Government on favourable terms. In 1838 it was laid down that a tract of waste land of from 100 to 10,000 acres might be taken up on a 45-year lease with a rent-free period of five to 20 years. After that period at least one-fourth of the area was to remain free from assessment in perpetuity.

But progress was slow owing to difficulties in communicating between Assam and Calcutta and ignorance of the methods of tea cultivation and manufacture. A sample of tea sent to the Court of Directors in 1836 arrived in so mouldy a state that it could not be tested. Tea makers and artisans from China were introduced in

1837 and consignments of manufactured Assam tea sent to the Court of Directors in 1838-39, were so good and fetched such high prices that the British mercantile world was immediately interested and a company, later called the Assam Tea Company, was formed.

The Government and the Court of Directors had intended to sever their connection with tea planting once it was established and could be left to private enterprise. Soon after the formation of the Assam Tea Company two-thirds of the Government establishment, gardens and nurseries were made over to it.

The Assam Tea Company was very active and produced and sent to Britain tea of good quality, but after a few years its shares slumped badly. It is believed that this was due in part to the undue importance attached to localities where the indigenous plant was found growing and to the maintenance of unduly expensive establishments.

## Another Source Of Revenue

In April 1849 the Government disposed of its share in the experimental tea estates for a small sum to a Chinese working in the garden, as it was felt that the experiments had served their purpose and further development could be left to private enterprise.

How tea plantation developed in the 19th century is shown by the fact that in 1901 the tea planters of Assam paid £41,000 in land revenue in addition to £5,000 as local rates, while the gardens employed over 600,000 labourers.

Tea planting has enabled good use to be made of extensive lands not suitable for rice cultivation. It has brought all the advantages incidental to the setting up of a new industry and has led to better communications. The country has obtained an added source of revenue while existing industries and the cultivation of other crops have not suffered. It has given a big impetus to trade and has meant employment for lakhs of workers.

# DECREASE IN LOCUST ACTIVITY

The locust swarms which came in during June having finished egg-laying, there was practically no swarm movement in any part of North-West India, except a few isolated flights in Central India (Sitamau State) and south-eastern Rajputana (Kotah State) during the first half of August.

However, since the last week of July, there has been fresh migration of individual locust specimens into Baluchistan, Sind and several parts of Rajputana. This corresponds in time roughly with the second wave of swarm migrations which came from the west last year.

Locust breeding was most active in several parts of Jodhpur and Bikaner, almost the whole of Jaipur, Alwar and Bharatpur. At several localities the hoppers were fully developed, indicating that fresh swarms might be expected by the end of August. Early in August there were fresh hatchlings of hoppers as a result of belated egg-laying by the swarms in several parts.

Energetic control work seemed to be in progress in most areas, except certain tracts in the Jaipur, Jodhpur and Jaisalmer States. The rainfall continues to be favourable, and thus it is almost certain that there will be a fresh generation of locusts during September and October. Swarm activity might therefore be expected from September to November.

## QUARANTINE RESTRICTIONS

Information has been received by the Public Health Commissioner with the Government of India that the Government of Ceylon have imposed quarantine restrictions on account of small-pox against passengers arriving from Vizagapatnam.

To avoid any possible delay and inconvenience at the port of debarkation, passengers embarking at Vizagapatnam for Ceylon are advised to be in possession of certificates showing that vaccination has been performed not less than twelve days and not more than three years prior to their arrival in Ceylon, unless they bear evidence of a previous attack of small-pox or show local signs of an early vaccination reaction indicating adequate immunity.



## COMMUNICATIONS

# RS. 8-CRORE TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPMENT SCHEME FOR INDIA

Work is being started on a Rs. 8-crore Telecommunications Development Scheme which, it is expected, will not only assist in the organisation of India's defences during the war but will make available for civilian use roughly twice as many circuits as are now available for all purposes, civil and military. A Construction Branch specially created for the purpose in the Posts and Telegraphs Department is already at work on the project which involves the erection of over 100,000 miles of wire.

Apart from the magnitude of the sum involved, the scheme has two notable features. In the first place, a new Telecommunications Development Board, with the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs as Chairman, has been set up and given full powers in regard to the spending of money and the carrying out of the scheme. Secondly, the setting up of such an organisation for development work ensures that expansion will take place in a systematic and co-ordinated manner, and that the present needs of civilian traffic and the possible future requirements of the general public in the post-war period are not overlooked.

### Civilian Traffic

In the past, it had been generally realized by the Department that the expansion of telephone and telegraph facilities was not catching up with the rapidly expanding demands of the public. This position has been considerably aggravated since the outbreak of the war—and more especially since the beginning of this year.

The Posts and Telegraphs Department originally provided a sum of over a crore of rupees for development for purely civil purposes during the current year. The unexpected turn taken by the war in the Far East led to the virtual squeezing out of the needs of the civil population by the greatly increased demands of the Defence Services and threatened to aggravate the already serious position as far as civilian traffic was concerned. The present scheme will, it is hoped, prove a satisfactory way out of the difficulty. When completed, there will be, for example, on the routes between the principal towns of India over 300 trunk telephone channels as against about 65 at present. Some of these additional channels will provide many new telegraph channels. The public and the Government will have at their disposal more than twice as many channels of communication as are now available.

The new works now contemplated require large quantities of materials in the form of telegraph posts and wires and highly complicated apparatus. As much as possible of these materials is being manufactured in this country and only such apparatus and material as cannot be manufactured is being obtained from overseas under high priority. The magnitude of the

materials and apparatus required would be obvious from the total cost of the scheme.

In the planning of this scheme, the Posts and Telegraphs Department have borne in mind the needs of the country after the war. It is expected that a large proportion of the new circuits created for special purposes will still be required to handle public traffic in the post-war years. The increase in telegraphic and telephone traffic has been considerable in recent years, but it has been restricted by the fact that members of the general public, aware of the prevailing congestion, do not use the service freely. It is estimated that at the end of the war industrial development and the consequent telegraphic and telephone traffic will fully justify the retention of many of the new circuits. It is worth noting that the development scheme provides a sum of Rs. 42 lakhs for the extension of local telephone exchanges, including 20,000 new instruments.

It will not be an easy task to find the trained personnel which is essential for

carrying out the work in hand. Men are being recruited from every possible source. They are being borrowed from telephone companies and cable and radio concerns. Trained members of the general public and retired Posts and Telegraphs men, as well as qualified men from the Burma Posts and Telegraphs now in India, are also being engaged on a temporary basis. Large training establishments are being set up, especially for the training of skilled subordinates and workmen.

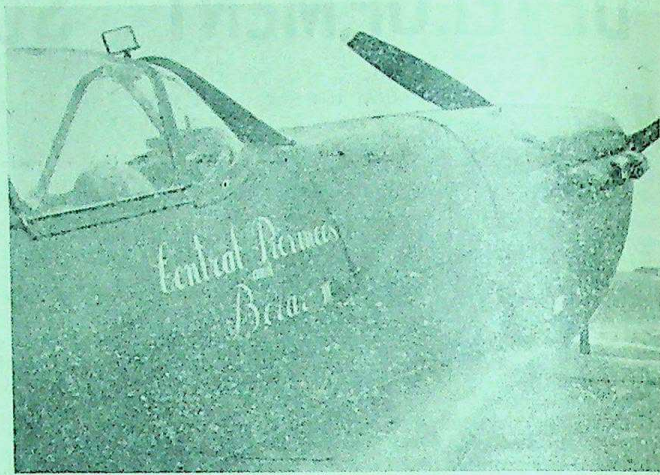
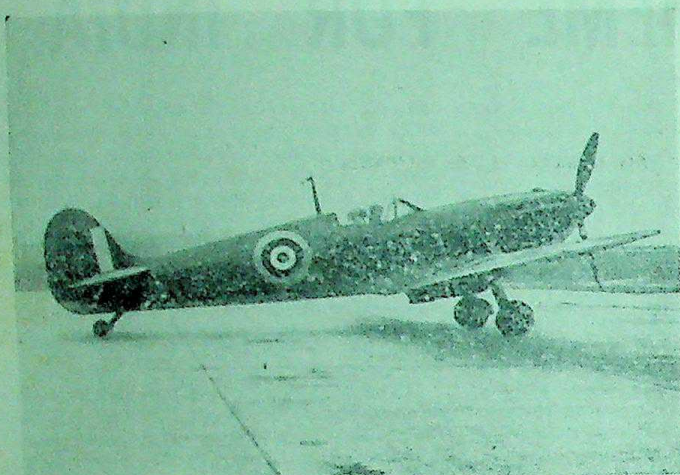
The capacity of the Department's workshops is being doubled and the Bombay Telephone Company, which is now practically owned and controlled by Government, is being helped to expand its workshop as it has been found that it can be of considerable assistance to the Department. It is worth mentioning that the Bombay Telephone Company have been developing the manufacture of telephone "cords"—a complicated task as these have to possess the greatest flexibility—and it is calculated that India's demand for these can be fully met from this source.



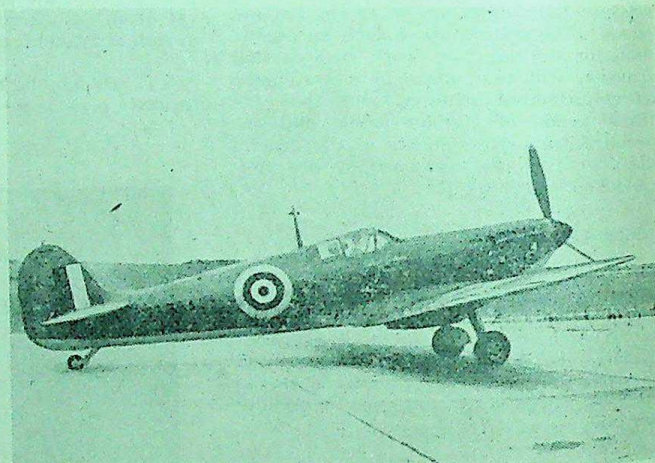
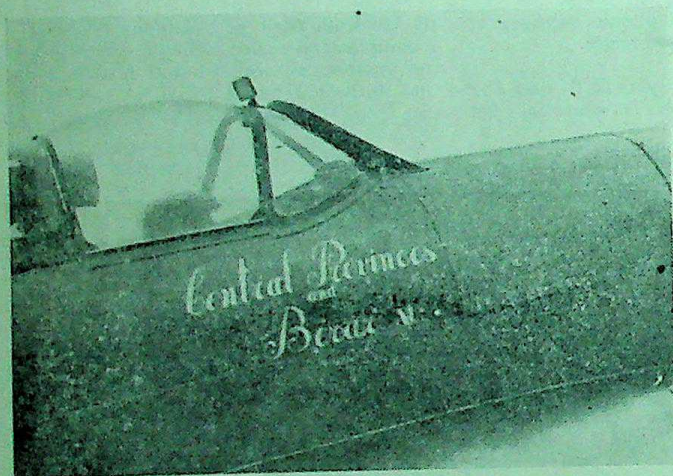
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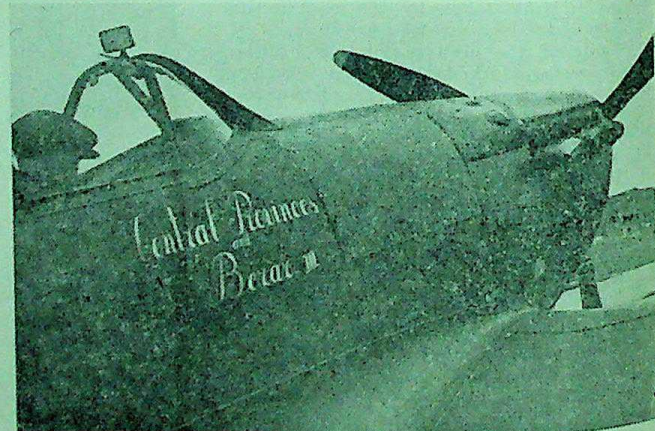
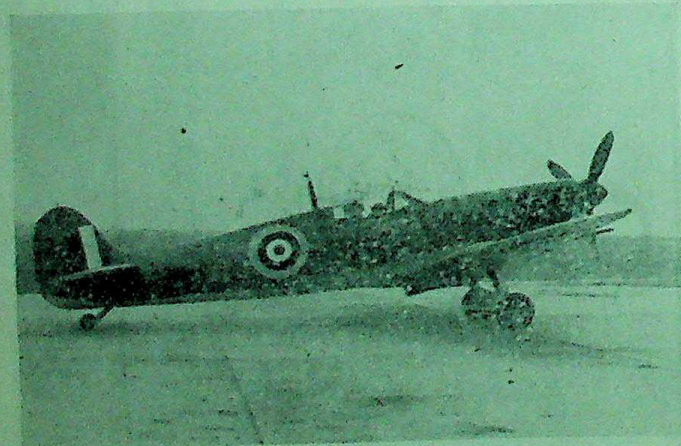
# C. P. And Berar's Gift To The Royal Air Force



*These Planes Were Presented To The Royal Air Force By The Central Provinces and Berar*



*C. P. And Berar Also Donated A Further Sum Of Rs. 2 Lakhs To The Indian Red Cross Organisation*

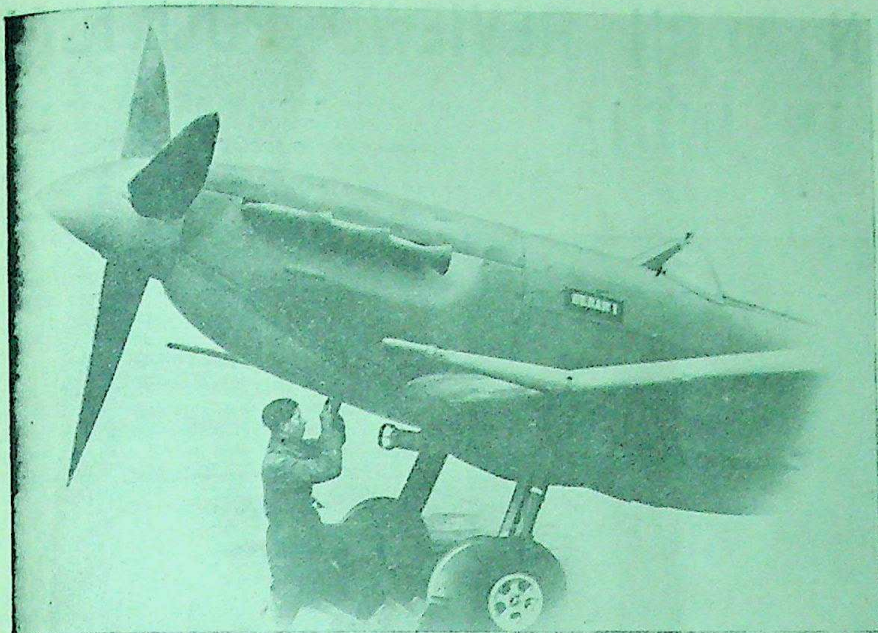


## C. P. AND BERAR'S GIFT TO INDIAN RED CROSS

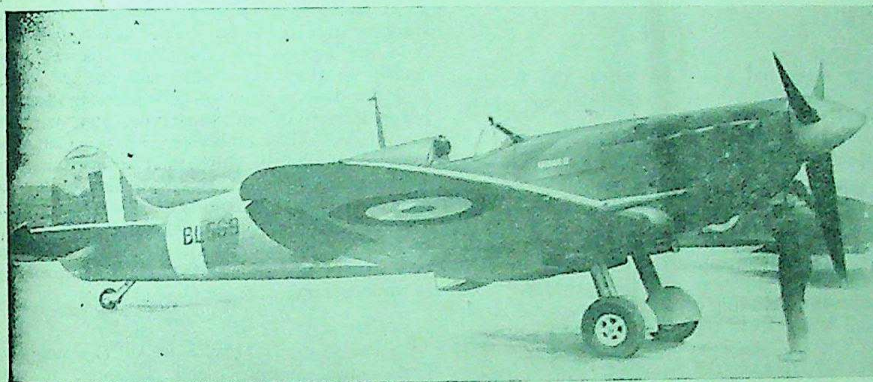
A further generous contribution of Rs. 2,00,000 for the Central Organisation of the Indian Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Association has been received by H.E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund through the Provincial War Relief Fund Appeal Committee of the Central

Provinces and Berar. This amount is made up of Rs. 1,50,000 contributed by the four districts of Berar, and Rs. 50,000 by the districts of the Central Provinces. The gift has been gratefully accepted by H. E. the Viceroy.





C. P. and Berar is among the provinces which have contributed generously for the purchase of fighter planes for the Royal Air Force



"BERAR II" IS ONE OF THE PLANES PRESENTED BY C. P. AND BERAR TO THE R. A. F.

## PLEASE GIVE YOUR GRAMOPHONE RECORDS TO THE TROOPS

**A**mong the sands of the Western Desert and in the fertile Nile Delta, amid the canyons of Iran and the plains of Iraq, in Assam, in Ceylon, on the North-West Frontier, and in a thousand other places, at dusk each day a crowd of Indian soldiers sits in a circle, listening intently.

In the centre of the circle is one of the most prized possessions of any Army unit—a gramophone. Week after week, many thousands of these gramophones, most of them gifts from the Indian public, bring relaxation, happiness and memories to soldiers of India stationed far from their homes.

### In Great Demand

But gramophone records do not last for ever, and new ones cannot often be bought in the places where troops are stationed. Therefore both English and Vernacular records are always in great demand.

Anyone having new or part-worn records to spare is asked to send them as gifts for the troops either to the Local War or Amenities Committees or (in the case of gifts intended for overseas) direct to the Officer-in-Charge, A.C.E.S. Depot, Rahimtola House, Homji Street, Bombay. If the donor particularly wishes the records to go to troops in the Eastern Army or Assam, they should be addressed to the Officer-in-Charge, A.C.E.S. Depot, 5, Commissariat Road, Calcutta.

### JODHPUR STATE RAILWAY DONATES RS. 2 LAKHS

The Jodhpur State Railway, which has already given Rs. 2,00,000 for the purchase of aircraft, has now contributed a further sum of Rs. 2,00,000 for the same object. This very generous gift is deeply appreciated by His Excellency the Viceroy, and has been warmly acknowledged.

## WELFARE OF INDIAN SOLDIERS' FAMILIES

### CIVIL LIAISON OFFICERS' DUTIES

**A**cting as "father" to perhaps a quarter-of-a-million Indian families is just one of the duties of each Civil Liaison Officer, the officials to whom India's fighting men send their worries and problems.

Aware of the anxiety which Indian soldiers on active service feel for loved ones at home, the Indian Army has set up Military Welfare Offices in the Presidencies. In addition to looking after the needs of military families, these offices are responsible for the welfare of the families of Indian sailors and airmen.

Typical of welfare work throughout the country is that carried on by the Military Welfare Office in the Madras Presidency, where the staff consists of a Civil Liaison Officer, a Deputy-Military Vice-President and twelve District Military Welfare Officers stationed over the area.

### Varied Services

Many and varied are the services these officers render to the families under their care. Educational concessions to children, hospital treatment for the sick, applications for land, and the issue of free passes for cinemas are a few of the most common requests.

The Welfare Office deals with complaints regarding non-receipt of letters or money, delay in payment of family allotments or pensions, and the addresses of serving personnel or prisoners of war. It keeps a close watch on the legal interests of soldiers on active service.

Neither is the fighting man forgotten when, his service concluded, he returns to civilian life. A special department has as its responsibility the care of discharged soldiers, finding employment for them, arranging medical treatment where necessary, and assisting the poorer cases from the Indian Army Benevolent Fund.

The Civil Liaison Officer is constantly in touch with his huge "family" of 270,000, touring the various centres of population, co-ordinating welfare work, and lending a kindly and understanding ear to the complaints and worries of Service families.

### CLUB FOR INDIAN TROOPS IN BASRA

Indian troops visiting Basra are assured of the kind of welcome which will quickly make them feel at home. Hospitality extended by Indian residents of the port is already well-known, and their latest contribution is in keeping with their declared policy of giving every possible assistance to the fighting men.

It consists of a club where Indian soldiers are entertained either by the hour or the week, for the amenities include a restaurant, recreation and reading rooms, a hair-dressing saloon and several bedrooms. The restaurant specialises in the preparation of tasty Indian dishes.

The Indian community have already subscribed large sums of money to the war effort, and their latest demonstration of loyalty and goodwill is much appreciated by Indian soldiers.



# SIR FIROZ KHAN NOON REVIEWS POLITICAL SITUATION IN INDIA

The Hon'ble Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., Defence Member, Government of India, addressing the Students' Union of the Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, on August 24, 1942, said:

When my friends come to see me they invariably ask what the Indian Members of the Executive Council are doing. These friends are usually not much interested in the day-to-day working of the civil administration, or the war machinery, nor do they care to know how hard and for how long hours, with no overtime payment, the clerks and officials of the Government of India work in New Delhi and other centres. The usual question is, "What constructive work is the Executive Council doing?" In the vocabulary of my friends, the word "constructive" means only "the constitutional constructional plan." This is not surprising for a people who for half a century have laboured hard to achieve their political independence. The hungry talk of nothing but food. It is not surprising that the Indian people give prominence in their thoughts to the constitutional progress of their motherland.

Today I want to be frank with you and take you behind the official screen to let you see the problem as I see it; and finally perhaps you will permit me to place before you one or two suggestions regarding the solution of our political deadlock.

## Executive Council At Work

It is sometimes suggested that there is a general impression among people in this country that the present Members of the Executive Council are mere puppets in the hands of the Viceroy who issues them orders every day as he issues orders to his valet and every Executive Councillor has to obey those orders, in other words, that the whole administrative machinery is run by the Viceroy, and we have no voice in it. Let me tell you straightaway that there is not one of us who would be willing to serve in these circumstances.

I have been in office since October 3, 1941, and I can say this without fear of contradiction that on not a single occasion has the Viceroy ever overruled me or rejected my advice. I was a Minister for 9½ years in the Punjab Government, and the Governor there accepted my advice as he was bound to do under the Constitution and the same has been my experience with this Viceroy during the short term that I have been in office. He has acted exactly as a Constitutional Monarch would in the case of a Minister, and may I say that whenever I have had any talks with my colleagues on the subject, the experience of everyone of us is exactly the same.

I hope I am not divulging any official secrets when I say that on many an occasion there have come up questions before the Executive Council which some of us considered as being of a controversial nature. Not in a single case has the Viceroy ever vetoed the decision of the majority in favour of the minority and may I also say this in all fairness to our European colleagues that in this experience of mine,



SIR FIROZ KHAN NOON

every case that has come before the Executive Council has been examined by them objectively and decided fairly.

## Majority Decision

I wonder how many people in India realise that under Schedule 9 of the present Government of India Act, Section 41 of the old Act continues to be in force under which the decision of the majority of Members is binding on the Governor-General, and I quote from that section:

"If any difference of opinion arises on any question brought before a meeting of the Governor-General's Executive Council, the Governor-General in Council shall be bound by the opinion and decision of the majority of those present, and, if they are equally divided, the Governor-General or other person presiding shall have a second or casting vote."

There is a proviso to this clause allowing the Governor-General to overrule his Executive Council if the safety, tranquillity or interests of British India are affected and he does not agree with the majority, but in every such case any two members of the dissentient majority may demand that their dissent be reported to the Secretary of State, but no such case has ever arisen and it remains a safeguard on paper and nothing in this section empowers the Governor-General to do anything which he could not have done lawfully with the concurrence of his Council.

## Paper Guarantees

The British Cabinet is not protected by any written guarantee. There a practice has grown of letting the majority vote prevail in spite of the fact that the King has the right of veto. Here in India, too, a practice has grown (and under statutory provision) that the majority vote shall prevail. What use were the paper guarantees to Muslims in Congress provinces? The real thing is to have the power exercised through Indians who form a majority in a Cabinet which we have at the moment.

The vast majority of cases are decided by Members of the Executive Council without even the knowledge of the Viceroy. It is only in important cases that he hears of the decision of the Member in charge and only in cases where two Departments differ or when the case is a difficult one or of wide importance that it goes before the Executive Council presided over by the Viceroy. Eleven Members out of sixteen, including the Viceroy, are Indians and you can realise how much administration is now entirely in Indian hands. The eleventh Indian Member is now going to England as India's representative at the War Cabinet. The Viceroy only holds the foreign portfolio and some special responsibilities under the Government of India Act, 1935.

## Cripps' Mission

At the time when Sir Stafford Cripps came out there were seven Indian Members in the Executive Council out of thirteen including His Excellency the Viceroy. We all decided to give the peace pourparlers the fullest chance of success and every one of us, including our British colleagues, expressed his willingness to make room for men who were representatives of our major political parties. We kept entirely aloof from those negotiations, because our interference might have been misunderstood. Not one Executive Councillor has the least desire to perpetuate himself in his office and our hearts pulsate as earnestly for the independence of our country as any, without exception. The claim that the Congress alone contains all the patriotic Indians, we shall never concede. Every Indian colleague of mine loves his country and his freedom as much as any, but unlike some we do not believe in violence for the acceptance of our civil rights nor do we feel that compromise is unnecessary.

The Congress broke down the negotiations and, among other reasons, it was said that the Congress leaders wanted an assurance from His Majesty's Government that if the former were to take office, their decisions in the Executive Council would be accepted like the decisions of a responsible ministry and it is said that it is one of the reasons on which the negotiations broke down. They wanted to remove the power of veto vested in the Crown and the Viceroy.

## A Village Incident

If the negotiations did break down on this point, I cannot help repeating to you the incident that took place in my village. My village shopkeeper's son, when he was out in the fields, quarrelled with the son of a farmer and as they started fighting with each other, the farmer's son was knocked down and the shopkeeper's son sat above him hitting him with his fists and weeping loudly at the same time. A passer-by asked him why he was weeping, and the boy replied that he was afraid that the farmer's son will soon turn him over and start beating him. The man naturally replied: "You fool. Why don't you smile while you are the top-dog? He may never turn you over."

The Congress leaders were being offered the government of India and on some hypothetical question of difference of opinion in the future which might never have arisen, they threw away the opportunity to serve their country. The power of veto is essential in all countries. It exists in



England today. The popularly elected leaders of the public are after all human beings and they may do something which they might themselves afterwards regret, and unless there was a power of veto in somebody, incalculable harm could be done to the interests of the country. The rigidity of the U.S.A. Constitution will furnish many examples of this. But apart from this written Constitution which gives the majority of the Executive Council such a strong position, most modern Cabinets like our own are not guided by rigid statutory laws.

A constitutional practice grows up everywhere. Here, too, the practice has grown that the Viceroy acts nominally as Prime Minister and is guided by the vote of the majority of his colleagues. In view of the existence of this practice I feel that if any party wish any written assurances before they take office regarding the binding character of their decisions, it is carrying suspicion to unreasonable limits. The thing always to do is to take office and then if you do not find things as you want them to be, threaten to go out, in which case, you would be in a much stronger position.

#### "Congress Refused Office"

The Congress having refused to take office, some suggested that leaders of other political parties, for example, the Muslim League, the Hindu Mahasabha, the Sikhs and the Depressed Classes should be called upon to take office, but even this on fuller examination was found to be unworkable particularly when we consider that such a scheme would not have had the support of the majority—the Congress Party.

It has been suggested that now that the Congress have agreed to allow the Muslim League to take office, why don't the British Government accept that proposition? Well, Mr. Jinnah (President of the Muslim League) has answered that in the papers in a full statement. The Congress offer is: "Hand over Government to Jinnah and let him win over the co-operation of other Indian political parties including the Congress." Suppose the Germans and the Poles were under one Government and that was a Russian Government and suppose the Germans said to the Russians "Hand over the Government to the Poles and clear out of this country." No Government in these circumstances could carry on without the support of the majority of elected members of the Legislature. It is not the ministers on the Government benches that matter but the persons who vote down the budget. The Poles being a minority in the country could either carry on as mere puppets in the hands of the majority or be pushed out of office at the sweet will of the majority. I shall waste no more of your time on this glib suggestion which is meant as an instrument of propaganda among the ignorant and illiterate crowd who form such an important part of the following of all leaders of democracies and particularly is this the case in India.

#### Aim Of Congress Party

Let us suppose for a moment that the Government of India were handed over to the Muslim League today. Could the Muslim League accept office and responsibility for the running of this Government unless Mr. Jinnah were given a majority of seats on the Executive Council, that is, at least 8 out of 15? If he were given this majority would that appease the Congress Party and would the Congress leaders come out of jail and co-operate? The Congress will go on shifting ground, objecting and non-co-operating until the Government is eventually handed over to their party.

The object of the Congress Party leaders is not that the Government should pass into Indian hands, for it is practically in Indian hands already, but their aim is that by hook or by crook, the Government

should pass into their hands and this without their troubling to come to an understanding with the Muslim minority.

Let us for a moment consider what objection there can be to the Congress Party being allowed to take over this Government on their own terms. First of all, the Muslims of India will object and if the Congress Party succeeded in coercing His Majesty's Government through the lawlessness to which they have resorted, that would be an excellent example for the Muslims and other minorities to follow. And if this country is to move from one lawlessness and civil commotion into another, what is to happen to the law-abiding citizens, to the economic life of this country?

#### Philosophy Of Force

If the political aims in this country are to be achieved by everybody by force, then can't we expect that the Muslim will fight and he will fight hard and he will use force greater than any force that the Congress workers are today using in India. On the other hand, if the Pakistan scheme comes in against the wishes of the minorities in the Punjab, there again, the minorities will be able to follow the good example of the National Congress and bring about disorder and chaos. In my humble opinion, the solution of India's political ills does not lie in the philosophy of force, which the Congress in spite of the Mahatma's years of preachings of non-violence have at last started to use, but in the spirit of give and take and compromise.

Let us for a moment examine this philosophy of force to which the Congress have at last turned. It will be agreed on all hands that there are only two ways—and there is not a third—of making India free, one by force and the other by compromise. The Congress seem to have tried the peaceful way for years under duress from Mr. Gandhi. The Working Committee members have always believed in force and we can only draw the conclusion that either the Mahatma has at last given way or else the Working Committee have decided to defy him. But they all seem to stand together remarkably well in the so-called Civil Disobedience launched by the All-India Congress Committee.

When the Congress leaders said shortly before their arrest that this time it will be their last war, and that it will be different from their previous action, and that all will be over within a week, they knew what plans they had made but the non-Congress public who were accustomed to this non-violent creed could not fathom the secret. But now the thing is plain to everyone. The followers of the Congress Party had worked out plans carefully when you

realise that everywhere the Congress followers have done exactly the same thing. They have attacked railways and other communications, burnt railway stations and post offices, destroyed post boxes and municipal buildings and lamps. They have murdered Government servants. They poured oil over two policemen and set fire to them in Wardha district, within a few miles of Mr. Gandhi's ashram. No Government can allow this incendiaryism and killing of human beings, and if the forces of law and order come into clash with rioters, the loss of mob life, if any, is entirely on the heads of those who let loose this demon of civil war.

#### A "Senseless" Policy

The whole policy is senseless. How does it hurt England if Indian property is burnt and Indian lives are lost? It is the Indian taxpayer or the citizen who paid for the construction of the property which is now destroyed by the Congress Party followers. If the mills are closed the economic loss falls on us. When the detailed history of this wanton destruction is written, all Congress Party men will have to hang their heads in shame. They should have realised that force of this description cannot win for India her freedom. They have definitely shown to the minorities what their fate will be when the forces for the upkeep of internal peace pass into the hands of the Congress Party. Some are now beginning to wonder whether this creed of non-violence was only a profession for the period during which the Congress leaders felt that mob violence had no chance of success.

Resort to violence now in accordance with a set plan which had the approval of all Congress leaders leaves no doubt that the non-violence creed has definitely been discarded. No one in this country or anywhere else can say that the Hindus of this country do not follow Mr. Gandhi, and yet it is difficult to believe that the Mahatma has told his followers to take to murder and arson. Even though thousands of hand-written posters have been distributed, telling people that it is the desire of the Mahatma and his last will that this should be a war to the finish, I have not the least doubt in my mind that these are lies and that everything is being done contrary to Mahatma Gandhi's lifelong belief and practice.

If anything, the present disorders show that during a civil commotion no leader has any control over the mob. The French and the Russian Revolutions are examples of the helplessness of the leaders who let loose the dogs of war. Those revolutions are also a good lesson for those who wish to avoid the destruction of national life



WHAT A CAESAR!



in all directions. No one can believe that Mahatma Gandhi has no influence over the mobs. We only hope that what the mobs do has his sanction.

### Some Questions

One might easily say to Congressmen: have you for a moment stopped to think if by the methods you are using now, by rioting and hooliganism, you will achieve your purpose? Do you really believe that by attacking and molesting innocent people, by looting their property, by the destruction of public commodities and by the burning of buildings you can justify your claims to Home Rule? I am certain that this is not the way. We want freedom, but with honour and in peace. No party that has as its following an irresponsible mob can ask for any sympathy or respect. By these base and wicked actions the Congress followers have put India in the wrong, and given the world a chance to frown at you, to dislike you and to despise you.

The law-abiding people of India are watching with apprehension your supporters here and in England appealing to His Majesty's Government to make peace with your party while your hands are still warm and bloody with murder and arson written on your faces. I hope the appeasers in England have learnt their lesson, and that they will not repeat in India what they perpetrated in Europe by paying deference to might as against right.

You must realise that winning this war, this life and death struggle, must be our first aim. I know a little of what may happen to us if the Axis wins. Fascism is not just a form of Government but a mode of living. Don't believe that you, labourers, villagers, soldiers and ordinary people, will remain unaffected. Nothing is sacred to our enemies.

### Government's Primary Duty

No matter who constitutes the Government of India, the primary duty is to keep internal peace and continue the war effort uninterrupted. When the war was over, if the Congress had started this movement, they might have received universal support. It is attributed in the papers that Mr. Gandhi said that Great Britain and the Allies cannot win this war. Can we believe this statement? If he had actually believed that we were going to lose the war, he would not have started his Civil Disobedience Movement now, because if Great Britain is to be defeated a few months hence, then Mr. Gandhi would have won the freedom of his country very cheaply, because the British would have been out of India in any case.

Having won that freedom in that way how long he could have kept it in the face of a victorious Germany or Japan, I leave it to your imagination. But Mr. Gandhi actually must have feared that England was going to win this war and that after having won this war, she would be so strong that she could with impunity defy the National Congress Party in India, and that is the reason why he has started the Civil Disobedience now when the war has reached a critical stage and when he felt that the Government of India will not be able to cope with the internal lawlessness and will succumb to the threat of disturbances by the Congress followers all over India and hand over the government of this country to the Congress Party in defiance of the views of all other interested political elements of India.

### Civil Disobedience

His fear also must have been that it was not possible for him to win over the Muslim co-operation after the war. For in that case, he must have felt that the Muslims will demand Pakistan and the Congress may not be able to resist it. And

that is why he decided to strike now. It is for the Congress to decide what the violent Civil Disobedience can achieve for them.

To some in this country the Civil Disobedience is a direct result of the Cripps' Mission. Sir Stafford's flying out in such a great hurry and at a time when England and her Allies could not claim any apparent victory was bound to create a wrong impression here that His Majesty's Government considered the military situation so critical that they were willing to buy their peace in India at any price. The launching of the Civil Disobedience campaign is a direct result of that impression, for, up to now, Mr. Gandhi has always said that during the war, he would never do anything to create difficulties for His Majesty's Government or the Allies. What is the reason for this change in front you can well imagine.

There should be no difficulty in drawing the conclusion that this lawlessness will soon subside and the Congress philosophy of force will fail and thank God and the Police and the Army for that. Thereafter we have only the second alternative left to us for winning our freedom, namely, compromise and unity.

### Possible Solution

An American journalist lunched with me the other day and we talked of Indian politics and the possible solution of our problems, and at the end, he remarked that ever since he had been here, he had found that in our discussions we went round and round and round and never came to any definite results. Naturally, a man, in whose country all sorts of races and peoples are living peacefully together, is astounded at the things that he sees in this country, and it is here that every Indian has to hang his head in shame that we, as practical men, cannot sit round a table and settle our differences. The whole essence of political progress is compromise. Where there is amongst men no desire to compromise, there will never be any solution of the Indian problem. Up to now I have

never uttered a word on the subject in public, because I know when feelings run high, it is useless to make any suggestion particularly when there is no possibility of finding a receptive ear. However, I wish to put it before you today. I feel that the political unity of India is a great aim which every Indian should have in view. If India can be kept as one political entity, we can be the most powerful country in the world, whether looked at from the point of view of economic resources, financial strength or defensive power. Having that point before us, we have then to find a solution which makes the Muslim minority feel that the new scheme of things is not going to place them for ever under a Hindu Raj from which there can be no deliverance in the future at all unless there is a civil war or a friendly invasion from abroad.

### Five Dominions

I should like British India to be divided into five dominions: (1) Bengal and Assam, (2) the Central Provinces, the United Provinces and Bihar, (3) Madras (Dravidian), (4) Bombay (Mahratta) and (5) Punjab, Baluchistan, Sind and North-West Frontier. These five dominions could be completely independent like New Zealand with her million and a half men and Australia and South Africa with their seven or eight million men each. But there are certain matters for which a central authority and a united effort on the part of all dominions is essential. These are, in my opinion, defence, customs, foreign relations and currency. For the administration of these four subjects only I would recommend the creation of a central authority which will consist of delegates nominated by the five dominion governments, delegates who will hold office so long as the appointing authority held office in their respective dominions, but with this great reservation that if at any time any dominion was dissatisfied with the working of the central authority that dominion shall have the power to secede, but that there shall also be a provision for such a seceding dominion to come back to the centre when the point of difference were removed. If you tell a State that

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 314]



"SIX WEEKS AND YOU HAVE NOT CAUGHT UP WITH DOKTOR GOEBBES"

INDIAN INFORMATION, OCTOBER 15, 1942



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

## STRIKES IN BRITISH INDIA IN 1941

Although there were more strikes in British India in 1941 than in the previous year, there was a marked drop in the number of workers involved and a fall of 56 per cent in the number of working days lost.

Including five strikes in progress at the close of the year, there were 359 strikes involving 291,054 workers during 1941 as compared with 322 strikes involving 452,539 workers during 1940. The total number of working days lost was 3,330,503 as compared with 7,577,281 in 1940.

Cotton and jute mills accounted for 44 per cent of the strikes, 70·3 per cent of the workers involved and 66·6 per cent of the working days lost. In 227 disputes (63·2 per cent of the total number) the chief demands related to wages or bonuses. Workmen were successful in gaining concessions in 186 (roughly 52·5 per cent) of the strikes which terminated during the year.

### Mahalanobis Committee

During the year the Government of India appointed a court of inquiry consisting of Mr. S. R. Deshpande in connection with an apprehended trade dispute between the Central Excise and Salt Department, North-Western India, and miners working in the Khewra salt mine.

The Government of the Central Provinces and Berar appointed a committee under the chairmanship of Mr. T. C. S. Jayaratnam to investigate the grievances of textile workers in the province. The Provincial Government endorsed the Committee's recommendations on the restoration

of the wage cut, reversion of the wage level to that prevailing in 1931-32, grant of a dearness allowance at the rate recommended by the Mahalanobis Committee in 1940, and a regularity bonus of Rs. 18 a year for absence not exceeding 12 days.

The main strikes during the year 1941 occurred at—

Place	Workers involved	Days lost
Loco and Carriage and Wagon Workshops, Ajmer.	7,983	124,303
Hukumchand Jute Mill, 24-Parganas, Bengal.	9,495	28,485
Kustore Collieries, Bihar.	2,320	181,950 (Due to prolonged strike the Collieries closed.)
Swadeshi Mills, Kurla (Bombay).	6,800	6,800
Five Cotton Mills in Bombay.	20,695	58,767
Great Indian Peninsula Railway Workshops, Parel.	6,846	68,460
Empress Mills, Nagpur	14,000	588,000
Model Mills, Nagpur	4,000	196,000
Textile Mills, Coimbatore.	11,012	179,725
Certain textile mills in Cawnpore.	23,550	206,321

## CEYLON COPRA FOR INDIA

The United Kingdom Ministry of Food, who have bought the entire output of Ceylon copra, have allotted a certain quota to India which is now being received by the Government of India.

The Government of India in the Commerce Department are accordingly drawing up a scheme for the distribution of this quota and have decided to invite various dealers and industrial users of imported copra and coconut oil to communicate to them their requirements of each commodity, stating figures of past three years' imports and consumption, names of suppliers in the past and whether the requirements are for the execution of any war orders or for meeting any particular essential civilian needs.

## ADVISORY PANEL ON DRUGS AND MEDICINES

The Government of India have set up an Advisory Panel on Drugs and Medicines with the following terms of reference:—

"To advise the Government of India as to which drugs and medicines, other than those the formulas of which are included in the Official Pharmacopoeias of the exporting countries, it is essential to import into India from abroad."

The Panel, which is so composed as to include representatives of the drug trade and industry as well as medical and scientific experts, consists of the following members:—

Col. Sir R. N. Chopra (Chairman), Dr. B. N. Ghosh, Lt.-Col. G. R. McRobert, Dr. W. R. Aykroyd, Sir Hari Shanker Paul, Mr. E. B. Fairbrass, and Dr. B. Mukerjee.

## RUSSIA'S OILFIELDS

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 276]

on the shores of the Caspian Sea and has no difficulty in shipping the oil by tankers to Astrakhan and up the Volga, but it has to use Batum with which port it is connected by multiple pipelines, as export harbour for the Black Sea and Western Europe.

Thus, so long as the Volga is available for shipping, oil can be taken up to Central and North Russia from both Baku and Grozny, but if the Volga is blocked by German invasion, the whole of the Caucasus oil would be bottled up in Grozny, Baku and Batum and lost to Russia. It would still be available for export as long as the Soviet Black Sea fleet could control Batum and it would be available for export as long as Baku-Iran shipping can be maintained.

For the U.S.S.R., however, the situation is already very serious. In this connection it must be remembered that, whereas the Caucasus has increased oil output four times, the demand for oil in the Union, owing to the mechanization of agriculture and enormous increase of motor car production and aviation, especially since the war, is said to have increased 18 times and this explains the reduction of available oil export from the U.S.S.R. This, in a few words, is the position of the oil industry today.

## MALAYA AND HONGKONG DOLLAR LOANS

A statement issued by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, London, regarding Malaya and Hongkong Government and Municipal dollar loans reads:

As announced recently in the House of Commons by the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, it has been decided that, although there is no legal obligation for interest to be paid on such loans otherwise than in local currency in Hongkong or Malaya, payment in respect of interest will be made in sterling *ex gratia* in order to avoid hardship to individual stock holders not resident in enemy or enemy-occupied territory and to such organisations and corporations as have no establishments in enemy or enemy-occupied territory. Such payments will be subject to adjustment in any particular case, if that is found to be necessary. The encashment of Straits Settlements savings certificates in similar circumstances has also been approved.

### Payment Of Interest

Applications for the payment of interest in India on the above loans should be addressed to the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay, Calcutta or Madras. They will be forwarded to the Crown Agent for the Colonies, and if approved, payment will be made to the holders of such loans through the Reserve Bank.

In the case of savings certificates, arrangements already exist for their immediate encashment on the production of those certificates at the offices of the Reserve Bank of India in Bombay, Calcutta or Madras. In cases of doubt, however, applications will be referred to the Crown Agent for the Colonies.



## THIRD DEFENCE LOAN

In a Gazette notification issued on September 4, 1942, by the Government of India, Finance Department, the prices at which the 3 per cent loan 1931-54 (Third Defence Loan) will be issued from September 15, 1942, have been notified as follows:—

From September 15, 1942 to September 19, 1942, Rs. 100-0-0; from September 21, 1942 to September 26, 1942, Rs. 100-0-8; and thereafter at prices increasing by 8 pies per cent weekly until further notice.

As interest for the full half-year ending with March 14, 1943, will be payable on March 15, 1943, the weekly increases in prices mentioned above, are intended only to allow for the approximate accrued interest up to a particular period.



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

## Steel Control

Three Iron and Steel Orders under the Defence of India Rules published in a *Gazette of India Extraordinary* issued on September 5, 1942, concern all producers and holders of stocks of steel and persons wishing to obtain deliveries of steel after that day.

The first of these Orders—The Emergency Distribution Order—prohibits deliveries of steel—other than the small quantities for which no authorisation is required under the Iron and Steel (Control of Distribution) Order—even against valid licences or authorisations, unless the Iron and Steel Controller has countersigned them after September 5, or has issued general or special orders allowing deliveries to be effected.

Persons holding licences and authorisations to acquire steel which is immediately required for essential purposes should now apply to the Iron and Steel Controller for revalidation of their licences or authorisations.

The Second Order requires all producers or holders of stocks of steel exceeding one hundredweight to submit a return of their stocks giving particulars and weights to the Iron and Steel Controller and the Controller of Supplies concerned, by September 19, 1942.

The Third Order prohibits any person from moving stocks of steel outside the premises in which they are situated on September 5, without the permission of the Iron and Steel Controller. Exceptions are made for steel in the possession of Central or Provincial Governments or Railways and for steel under transport from producers or stockholders by holders of valid authorisations.

## War Risks Insurance

Under a new rule added recently to the War Risks (Factories) Insurance Rules plant and machinery appertaining to or appropriated for the purposes of a factory but situated outside the geographical limits of the factory, which were hitherto uninsurable under the Central Government's Scheme, have now been made insurable subject to the fulfilment of certain conditions. Insurance of such plant and machinery is compulsory and was directed to be effected by the 15th day of September 1942. The rate of premium for property of this kind which was in existence on May 29, 1942, is 4 per cent of its insurable value.

As the possibility of complete destruction of original records cannot be entirely ruled out under war conditions, it is considered desirable that the policyholders under the War Risks (Goods) Insurance Scheme and the War Risks (Factories) Insurance Scheme should have a duplicate set of records in a safe place, which might be produced in support of a claim when the originals have been destroyed.

As the onus of proof will lie on them, in the event of a claim arising under either of the above schemes, the policyholders should, in their own interest, maintain a complete inventory of the property insured so as to enable them to submit details required to substantiate their claim. This should contain precise details of the situation, description and value of the property insured item by item, held by the policyholder from time to time. In cases where

such property is located in more than one place, separate details in respect of each place should be maintained.

## India And Sugar Agreement

After consulting the sugar industry, the Provincial Governments and other interests concerned and the Central Sugar Advisory Board, a body composed entirely of representatives of Central, Provincial and State Governments, the Government of India decided not to join in the proposed extension of the International Sugar Agreement. India's obligations under the Agreement thus terminated from September 1, 1942.

India was a party to the International Sugar Agreement, which was concluded in 1937 with a view to establishing and maintaining an orderly relationship between supply and demand of sugar and to regulate the world prices of sugar. Under this Agreement India undertook to prohibit exports of Indian sugar by sea elsewhere than to Burma.

The term of the Agreement expired on August 31, 1942, and the International Sugar Council recommended to the contracting Governments a continuance of the Agreement either for the duration of the war and for one quota year after the date of termination of hostilities or for a period of two years from August 31, 1942, whichever be less.

## Lock-outs

Lock-outs without 14 days' notice have now been made illegal under an order issued by the Government of India.

An earlier order issued on March 6, 1942, under Rule 81-A of the Defence of India Rules made strikes without notice illegal. It was not at the time considered necessary to apply the order to lock-outs, but it has always been the intention of the Government to treat strikes and lock-outs on the same terms.

As Rule 81-A enables orders to be passed both in respect of strikes and lock-outs, the original order has been replaced by a new one which makes both strikes and lock-outs illegal unless 14 days' notice is given or until two months have elapsed after the conclusion of conciliation or adjudication proceedings.

Where, however, a strike has been started in an undertaking, no previous notice of a lock-out is necessary. The employer has in that case to notify prescribed authorities of the lock-out within three days.

## League Of Nations

The Public Accounts Committee, on August 19, examined the accounts of the Legislative Department, the Legislative Assembly Department, the War Department, the Defence Department and of both branches (Reforms and Public) of the Governor-General's Secretariat.

This concluded their review of the entire body of Government accounts for

1940-41. The Committee held one more meeting on August 24 for the consideration and adoption of their report.

It was stated that India's contribution to the League of Nations in 1940-41 amounted to Rs. 9,41,000 as against Rs. 7,50,000 in the previous year. Although owing to the greatly curtailed activities of the League its total expenditure has been considerably reduced, India's share of this expenditure has gone up as the effective membership of the League has fallen on account of the war and the total expenditure has consequently now to be shared by a much smaller number of countries. India contributes now about a tenth of the total expenses of the League.

## Income-tax

With a view to avoiding double refunds and enabling shareholders, who claim refund of income-tax on dividends and interest on debentures on the strength of duplicate certificates, to receive refunds with greater expedition than at present, the Central Board of Revenue, after consulting various Chambers of Commerce, commercial bodies and associations, has laid down a new procedure for the grant of such duplicate certificates.

The word *original* should be marked, preferably printed, in bold letters at the top of the original certificates, with a footnote that they should be carefully preserved for the purpose of income-tax refunds.

The word *duplicate* should be similarly marked, in red bold letters, on the top of the duplicate certificates. The duplicate should not be given the same number and date as the original, but should bear a different number and the actual date of issue. A reference to the original, however, should be given at the top of the duplicate, mentioning the number and date of issue of the former.

Before issuing a duplicate certificate, the Company concerned should obtain a declaration in writing, from the registered holder or the person to whom the original certificate was issued, to the effect that the original certificate has been lost or destroyed.

## War And India's Trade

The tenth series of the publication "Statutory and other Notices issued by the Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India regarding matters relating to the trade and commerce of British India in connection with the War" covering the period December 1, 1941, to February 28, 1942, was issued on September 3, 1942, by the Economic Resources Board.

The publication, which is intended to facilitate reference, reproduces statutory and other notices concerning imports and exports, finance, trading with the enemy and the control of enemy property, control of newsprint, iron and steel, petrol, machinery, tools, tea, rubber, etc., control of prices, house rents, wages and freights, production, supplies, labour, insurance, transport, patents, designs, etc.



# MR. GANDHI'S CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVE NOT IN INDIA'S INTERESTS, SAYS DR. AMBEDKAR

"No one can expect consistency from Mr. Gandhi, but everybody did and had a right to expect a sense of responsibility from him. There can be no doubt that Mr. Gandhi's present move to launch a mass movement is both irresponsible and insane," declared the Hon'ble Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, Member for Labour, Government of India, in a statement issued sometime ago to the Press.

He said: It is difficult to understand why Mr. Gandhi should think it necessary to enter upon so hazardous a plan of action at so perilous a time. To me some points are quite clear. As to India's reaching its political goal no one can deny that transfer of power from the British to the hands of Indians has been continuous and, of late, rapid. That the British do not wish to entrench themselves in the last ditch and prevent the political advancement of India to its final goal is equally clear. If any proof was necessary the Cripps proposals are there. They conceded (1) independence and (2) a constituent assembly both of which have been the demands which the Congress has been making.

After the Cripps proposals it is hard to believe Mr. Gandhi when he says that the British do not intend to transfer power to the hands of Indians. It is a positive and deliberate untruth. That the Cripps proposals have fallen through does not to my mind affect the fact that the British Government is committed to independence if Indians prefer it to Dominion Status. One does not know what led the Congress to reject the Cripps proposals even when they conceded independence and a constituent assembly. If failure to transfer Defence be the reason for starting civil disobedience I am sure that very few will accept the soundness of so short-sighted a view.

## Congress Demand

In the first place the Congress claimed from the British only a declaration of their war aims and did not claim their implementation during the war.

Secondly, there is no Indian politician, so far as I know, competent to run the technical and military side of the Defence Department.

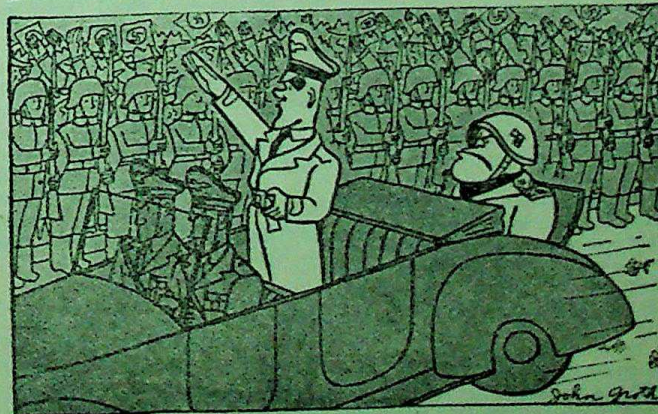
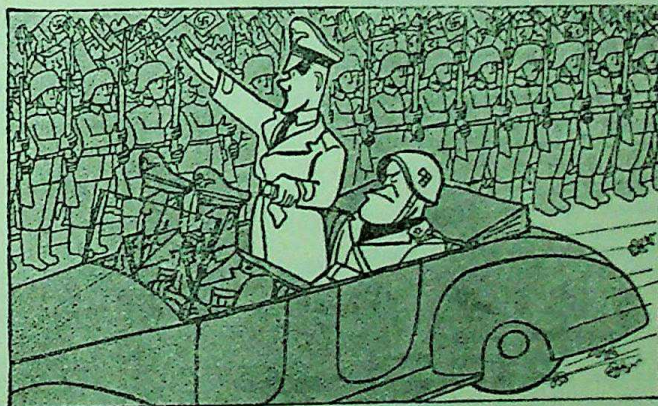
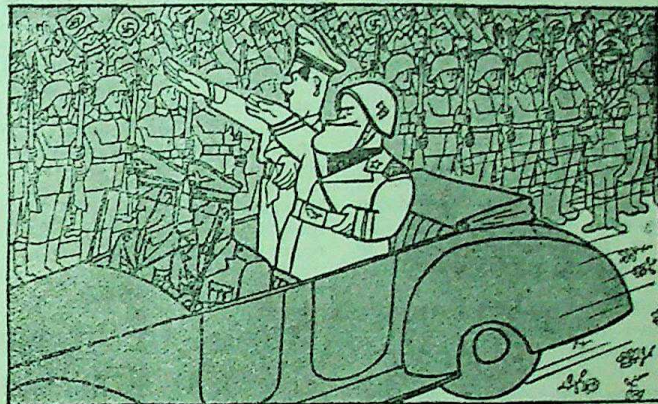
Thirdly, when all departments were transferred as was done by the Cripps proposals it was childish to quarrel over the non-transfer of the Defence Department. Any man with commonsense would know that the reserved department could not have held out on matters insisted upon by the transferred departments if they were necessary and reasonable. This is what happened to the special powers of the Governors when the Congress took office. It is surprising that the Congress should have forgotten its own experience in this matter.

I am clearly of the opinion that the Congress deserves no sympathy in this move for civil disobedience. It has rejected the best opportunity it was given to serve the country. Looking at it from this point of view, I cannot see how the move taken by Mr. Gandhi can be held to be in the interest of the country. It seems to me that Mr. Gandhi is merely trying to retrieve the prestige which he and the Congress have lost since the war started.

The Congress can live with prestige in either of two ways. It can live by direct action or it can live by the patronage which office gives. Mr. Gandhi compelled the Congress to give up office and he refused to be a party to direct action. The slump caused in Congress prestige by this do-nothing policy of Mr. Gandhi has been disastrous to Mr. Gandhi and to the Congress and this desperate game of Mr. Gandhi is intended to retrieve his position. This move may be the best way to serve the best interests of the Congress Party, but it certainly is not the way to serve the country. At this juncture such a move by Mr. Gandhi is fraught with the greatest mischief and is sure to result in the greatest harm to the country.

There are two ways open to the Congress Party to further the political advancement of this country:—(1) Direct action by the Congress and (2) a united demand by all parties representing the different elements in the national life of the country. Mr. Gandhi and the Congress are very keen about the first. It is a stock plan. Except Mr. Gandhi everyone knows that beyond a certain limit it is worse than useless and even when it succeeds the British Government, unlike the Nazi Government, is not addicted to the use of brute force and does not use unmoral means to suppress a moral cause.

Mr. Gandhi will not admit it but that is only because he fortunately has no experience how the Nazis will deal with his mass civil disobedience. The Nazis will give Mr. Gandhi a very short shrift and prove that his plan of direct action can be put out of action at the very start.





The question that worries me is: why does Mr. Gandhi resort to his method of direct action carried on single-handed by the Congress when it has proved to be so inefficacious? Why does he not try the other method, namely, bringing about unity among all parties? Why does not Mr. Gandhi call a conference of all leaders of the different parties to find out their demands and to have a settlement if there is any dispute about them? This is a way worth trying. It is also a way of statesmanship and a way which will bring about enduring peace among the communities. But Mr. Gandhi has never made such an attempt and I have never been able to understand his reasons for avoiding this way of solving the problem. To say that no settlement can take place while the British are here can to my mind mean only one of two things (1) that the leaders of the minority communities are tools in the hands of the British, or (2) that the Congress thinks it would be better to talk of a communal settlement after the British Government has withdrawn, because the Congress then in charge of law or order will be in a better position to dictate to the minorities and force a settlement on its own terms.

If it means the first then it means a vile and wanton aspersion on the character of the leaders of the minority communities. The Congress must drop this self-righteous attitude and admit that even those who differ from it are as good patriots if not better. Settlement of the communal problem is, I am sure, rendered more difficult by such stupid and baseless allegations which the Congress and its Press has been persistently indulging in against the leaders of the minority communities. If it means the second then there is no doubt that the move is a deceitful move. In either case it proclaims bankruptcy of statesmanship on the part of Mr. Gandhi.

Mr. Gandhi has not realised one thing and the sooner he realises it the better. His most advertised political virtues were to bring about Hindu-Moslem unity and to serve the untouchables. After 20 years neither the Mussalmans nor the untouchables trust Mr. Gandhi.

#### "The Greatest Tragedy"

This is the greatest tragedy in Mr. Gandhi's life. The sooner Mr. Gandhi realises it the better. Even now Mr. Gandhi can call the leaders of the minorities for consultation. There is no use saying that they are making impossible demands, for it is always open to Mr. Gandhi to call upon them to agree to refer the matter to international arbitration.

The general public has no cause to support Mr. Gandhi in this move. It is quite uncalled for. The minorities have no reason to join Mr. Gandhi, for he refuses to give them an assurance as to their safety and security under the new constitution in terms which are explicit and in a spirit which has the hall-mark of sincerity.

We are living in such perilous times that our duty cannot end in merely expressing our disagreement with Mr. Gandhi. Duty requires that those who do not believe in Mr. Gandhi's movement must take steps to prevent it from taking shape. In the civil disobedience movement of 1930 the Moslems and the depressed classes, although they did not participate in it, observed a kind of benevolent neutrality towards it. The situation in 1930 was very different from what it is now. In the 1930 civil disobedience there were only two possibilities: either political power would have remained with the British or it would have devolved upon Indians. There was no possibility of Japan or Germany stepping in and making themselves the masters of

India. The possibility is now staring us in the face. It would be madness to weaken law and order at a time when the barbarians are at our gates intending not merely to defeat the British but to enslave us for ever. There lies the great difference between the movement of 1930 and the mass movement now threatened by Mr. Gandhi.

The Congress and Mr. Gandhi have been arrogating to themselves the right to speak in the name of the country. It is a false claim, but nobody has cared to challenge it. That is because of the feeling that so long as the Congress was doing no harm to the interests of the country it was a matter of small moment whether it claimed to speak in the name of the nation or in the name of the party which it is. But when the Congress, being only a party, proposes to launch upon a policy which puts the safety, security and even the possibility of the independence of the country in jeopardy it becomes the duty of other parties to drop the attitude of benevolent neutrality and oppose the Congress.

I wish Indians to realise two things. First that their destiny is bound up with the victory of democracy against Nazism. Second that once democracy wins nothing in the world can stop India gaining her freedom if Indians take care to unite themselves. I am sure Mr. Gandhi's move is quite uncalled for. If democracy wins no one can stand in the way of India's freedom. The supreme task of Indians at the moment is to see that democracy wins. It is not out of love for principle that they should do so. It is our country's future that requires us to do it as our duty.

Mr. Gandhi is an old man in a hurry. Indians should be careful not to do anything in a hurry which they will have to regret in leisure.

### SEQUEL TO DISTURBANCE AT ALLAHABAD

As a sequel to a disturbance outside the Railway Institute at Allahabad on May 1 last, in which British troops were accused of assaulting civilians, nine British soldiers have been sentenced by District Court Martial to periods of detention ranging from 56 days to 112 days.

During the Court Martial the following charges were dealt with:—(1) When on Active Service, conduct to the prejudice of Good Order and Military Discipline; (2) When on Active Service, disobeying a Lawful Command given by his Superior Officer; (3) When on Active Service, offering violence to his Superior Officer; (4) When on Active Service, committing a Civil Offence, that is to say, common assault; (5) When on Active Service, conduct to the prejudice of Good Order and Military Discipline.

Of the nine men, one was convicted on the first, second and third charges and sentenced to 112 days' detention. Five were convicted on the first and second charges, one on the first, fourth and fifth and one on the fourth and fifth charges. All these were sentenced to 84 days' detention. The ninth was convicted on the first and fifth charges, and was sentenced to 56 days' detention.

The offences were committed when the soldiers, members of a party which was passing through Allahabad in a road convoy, and had attended a dance at the Railway Institute, were asked by other soldiers, acting as Military Police, to leave the premises. Subsequently they became involved in a disturbance outside the Institute.

## DEMOLITION OF PIR PIGARO'S "KOT"

Government have decided to exemplify their irrevocable determination to stamp out the Hur organisation by demolishing the place to which that organisation looks as its headquarters—the "kot" of the Pir Pigaro in Pir Jogoth. The high walls of this fort-like structure with its elaborate interior arrangements, and symbols of authority which challenge that of Government, will be pulled down, but the Mosque Dargah and all religious buildings and religious ground within the enclosure will be scrupulously preserved equally from material damage and disrespect of any kind.

In order to make it evident to Muslims and all Sind India and elsewhere that Government have no intention to impair the religious eminence of Dargah, but only to destroy the secular power of the Pir Pigaro, the demolition work is being entrusted to Muslim soldiers mainly under command of Muslim officers.

### SIR FIROZ KHAN NOON ON CONGRESS DEMAND

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 310]

once you come into federation you will never be able to get out of it, the authorities of that State will do their utmost to keep out of that federation, but if you give this freedom of secession, you may induce them to come in and have a trial.

In Russia, the various republics have a complete power of secession and one of them—Outer Mongolia—did secede for a year or two in 1922 on a matter of language, but was persuaded to come back again under a compromise scheme. The Central Government in Russia wanted to impose one Russian language in all their republics. The Outer Mongolians rebelled and seceded. Eventually they were allowed to have their way and teach their own language in schools, but the Outer Mongolians agreed also to teach the Russian language which was to be the *lingua franca* of the whole of Russia. The great thing is to persuade people to come together, sitting at a joint table. Thereafter I feel it will be very difficult for one of the partners to leave the joint family, because such seceders will lose so many great advantages that their separate existence will be far worse than the one they left behind.

#### "A Good Gesture"

I am glad to notice that even the Congress have now agreed to the Provinces having residuary powers. Even though meaningless, it is a good gesture. It is meaningless in the sense that the present lists of Provincial and Central subjects are so exhaustive under the Government of India Act that no cases of residuary powers are likely to arise. However, it is a concession of a principle in the right direction and as such should be welcomed as a happy gesture. It certainly shows a spirit of compromise and raises the hopes of all those who believe in peace.

I have no doubt that there are hundreds of other people who have similar schemes for the solution of our political ills, but this is no time for the consideration of these schemes. We have to win this war first and make sure that the freedom of India will be worth at least the paper it will be written on.

One thing is clear, that during the continuance of this war no constitutional scheme, whatsoever its merits, can be made to work at the point of the bayonet. In India there has to be a compromise between the Congress and the Muslim League, or else, there can never be freedom or peace in this country.



## WEIGHTS, MEASURES—COINAGE—GLOSSARY—POINTS ABOUT INDIA

### WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Weights and measures in India vary not only from district to district but also for different commodities.

The principal units in all the scales of weights are the maund, seer and tola, and the standard weights for each of these are 82.28 lbs., 2.057 lbs. and 180 grains troy respectively.

The Indian tola is the same weight as the rupee, viz., 180 grains troy; the standard or railway seer is equal to 2.057 lbs. while the standard or railway maund of 40 seers is equivalent to 82 lbs. 4 oz. 9 drams. There are numerous local variations.

### COINAGE—RUPEE IN DOLLARS AND POUNDS

Rs. 1 is approximately 1sh. 6d. or 20.95 cents.  
Rs. 100 are approximately £7/9/6 or \$30.05.  
Rs. 1,000 are approximately £74/14/10 or \$300.53.  
Rs. 1,00,000 (a lakh) are approximately £7,473/19/2 or \$30,653.  
Rs. 1,00,00,000 (a crore) are approximately £747,395/16/3 or \$3,065,259.  
100,000 is one lakh (1,00,000)  
10,00,000 is one crore (1,00,00,000)

#### COINAGE

3 pies are 1 pice.  
4 pice are 1 anna.  
16 annas are 1 rupee.

### GLOSSARY OF SOME COMMON INDIAN TERMS

Abkari	~ Excise.
Ahimsa	~ Non-violence.
Akhbar	~ Newspaper.
Amir (or Emir)	~ Nobleman; Chief.
Anjuman	~ Association; gathering.
Badmash	~ A bad character; a ruffian.
Bahadur	~ Brave; Heroic; a title.
Bajra (or Bajri)	~ Millet.
Begum	~ A lady of high family; a Princess.
Bhang	~ Hemp leaf (used as an intoxicant).
Bharat	~ India.
Bigha	~ A measure of land (about a third of an acre).
Bund	~ Embankment.
Bustee	~ Slum; collection of huts.
Chapati	~ Unleavened bread made in thin flat cakes.
Chaprassi	~ Orderly; bearer.
Charka (or Charkha)	~ A spinning wheel.
Charpoy	~ A bedstead with a mattress made of woven rope or tape.
Chowkidar	~ A village policeman.
Dak	~ Post; mail.
Dal	~ Pulses.
Dewan	~ Prime Minister to an Indian Chief; a title.
Durbar	~ A ceremonial court; a levee.
Durwan	~ A door-keeper; a commissioner.
Fakir; Sadhu	~ Mendicant: fakir generally to Muslims.
Ghee	~ Clarified butter.
Godown	~ Store-room; warehouse.
Goonda	~ A ruffian; a bad character.
Grantha Saheb	~ Sikhs' Bible or Book of Prophets.
Gur	~ Crude sugar.
Guru	~ A Hindu religious preceptor.
Haj	~ A pilgrimage by a Muslim to Mecca. (Hence 'Haji,' one who has performed the Haj.)
Harijan	~ Untouchables (brought into current use by Mr. Gandhi; literal meaning "people of God").
Hundi	~ A bill of exchange; a draft.
Imam	~ The leader in Muslim prayer.
Jagir	~ Land given by Government as reward. (Hence 'Jagirdar,' holder of a jagir).
Jamadar	~ Indian officer in the army or police (lowest rank).
Jirga (or Jirgah)	~ A council of tribal elders (especially of the Frontier clans or tribes).
Jogi (Yogi)	~ A Hindu ascetic.
Jowar	~ Millet (the large species).
Khadi (or Khaddar)	~ Cloth made on a handloom from hand-spun yarn.
Khalsa	~ Lit. 'pure,' 'society of the pure,' founded by Guru Govind Singh, is now equivalent to the Sikh community.
Khan	~ A Pathan chief or nobleman; a Pathan title.
Khas	~ Personal; private; reserved; state-owned.
Kisan	~ An agriculturist; a farmer.
Kutchi	~ Raw; green; unripe; inefficient; irregular; unfinished.

### POINTS ABOUT INDIA

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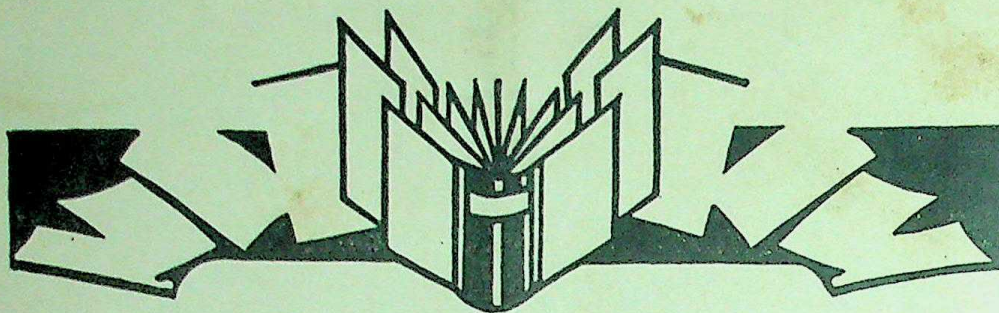
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# INDIAN INFORMATION

✓  
प्रकाशालय  
मुद्रण कागड़ी

*Handwritten signature*





## *They Said*

"We are full of determination to continue the struggle hand in hand, whatever suffering and hardships may await us, and to continue the struggle hand in hand as comrades and brothers until the last vestiges of the Hitlerite regime are turned to dust, remaining in memory as an example and warning for the future."—*Mr. Churchill in a statement broadcast by Moscow radio.*



"In the new international regime which all free men hope will emerge from our victory, in order to preserve both moral and material security in a decent world, India will play a role commensurate with her immemorial tradition of serene and immutable loyalty to the cause of peace and goodwill among men."—*Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, in a speech at Washington.*



"If a heavy responsibility rests on Britain in the present grave emergency, an equally heavy responsibility rests on the leaders of Indian opinion. Can there not, in the face of common danger, be a firm and honest understanding that the peoples of India will throw their whole power behind the war effort on the condition that India's destiny at the end of hostilities is to be determined by the Indian peoples?"—*Mr. Arthur Greenwood, the Labour Party Leader, in a broadcast from London.*



"Measureless improvement has marked the past two years in our position. Now we are not alone but among the greatest nations in the world, moving forward together until absolute victory is won and established on unshakable foundations. Germany is now more hated in every country in Europe than any race has been since human records began."—*Mr. Churchill in a speech in the House of Commons, September 7.*





Vol. II, No. 104

## INDIAN INFORMATION

November 1, 1942

INDIAN  
INFORMATION  
IS A  
REFERENCE  
RECORD

**AIMS :—**To provide a condensed record of the main peace and war activities of the Government of India, together with some outstanding facts about the British Government's war activities. **INDIAN INFORMATION** does not compete with the Press; it exists for their convenience and is not intended for general circulation among the public.

**PUBLIC :—**All those persons and institutions whose general role is to inform the public, e.g., the public administrator, whether he be governmental (Central or Provincial), municipal, commercial, educational or institutional, the editor, the publisher, the journalist and the publicist.

**FORMAT :—**Headings, sub-titles and bold face passages are inserted to facilitate reading, but they should not in themselves necessarily be considered as expressions of official opinion or emphasis.

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Any Item May Be Reproduced Without Acknowledgment.

ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY BY J. NATARAJAN, PRINCIPAL INFORMATION OFFICER,  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA. ASSOCIATE EDITOR, CECILIE LESLIE.

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COVER PICTURE: SIGNALLING WITH THE AID OF FLAGS. CONTENTS PAGE PICTURE: I.A.F. PILOT.



## ♦ FACTS AND FIGURES ♦

Out of 122 Bevin boys who have completed their training in England and returned to India, 105 have secured employment and earn on an average 145 per cent more than they did before going to England.

♦♦♦

The total number of Indian prisoners of war in Europe known up to the end of July, 1942, was 3,510. During the thirteen weeks ending August 1, 1942, the Indian Comforts Fund has despatched 40,500 weekly food parcels and 3,720 quarterly next-of-kin clothing parcels. More Indian literature and a small supply of "pugs" and hair oil for the Sikhs have been sent. Satisfactory evidence continues to be received that these parcels are reaching camps in Germany and Italy safely and are greatly appreciated.

♦♦♦

The production of British planes has doubled in the last year. 87 per cent of the R.A.F. planes operating from home bases, and 75 per cent at bases abroad are British made.

♦♦♦

The first vessel to be built for the Navy in an Indian yard was H.M.L.S. *Travancore*, which was followed by H.M.L.S. *Baroda*.

♦♦♦

Britain produces today an imposing list of fighters which have proved successful in every theatre of war. The Spitfire, Hurricane and Bristol Beaufighter are without equal in their combination of speed and firing power.

♦♦♦

Indian soldiers are to receive an important and valuable financial concession. Every complete Rs. 50 which they allow to accumulate from their pay is earning interest at the rate of six annas per quarter.

♦♦♦

Out of a population of 33 million men, women and children between the ages of 14 and 65, 22 million are working full time in England either in industry, the armed forces or civilian defence.

♦♦♦

Six men of the Royal Indian Navy who have been awarded Meritorious or Long Service Medals have a combined record of 130 years' service in the Navy and the former Royal Indian Marine.

♦♦♦

At a meeting of the Polish National Council held in London on July 8, the Vice Premier Stanislaw Mikolajczyk gave the following facts about Nazi oppression. He said that 200,000 Poles and 300,000 Jews have been murdered or executed outright; 500,000 have been deported to Germany for forced labour; 170,000 have been compulsorily recruited into the German Army, and many thousands thrown into concentration camps. These figures exclude Poles and Jews who died of starvation and disease.

Bigger and better parcels may now be sent to troops serving overseas. Parcels which are too bulky to be sent by the postal service are now handled by a special Military Forwarding Organisation, which has been set up at Bombay and Karachi. Whereas the weight of parcels which may be sent by the postal service is limited to 22 lbs. (25 lbs. in the case of Aden), the Military Forwarding Organisation will deal with parcels exceeding the above limits but not exceeding 56 lbs.

♦♦♦

Merchant ships have been launched from British yards in three months and completed in four and the cost is half of what it would be in the United States. Fast petrol boats have been built all over the world from parts produced in Britain.

♦♦♦

The Royal Navy keeps well over 600 ships continuously at sea.

♦♦♦

In 1941-42, the railways carried 2 crores more passengers than ever before and 9 to 10 crores more than the pre-war average.

♦♦♦

In Aircraft production in England the rate has increased over 100% from what it was in the last quarter of 1940.

♦♦♦

Since the inception of the Road Fund, schemes to the total value of 14 crores have been approved against road fund allocations, the actual expenditure being nearly 10 crores. During the year 1941-42, expenditure from the Road Fund was 1.79 crores, indicating great activity in road development in India.

♦♦♦

Merchant ships in England are now being produced at over 57% above the rate that prevailed in the last quarter of 1940.

♦♦♦

Shipping is Britain's life-line. 1941 launchings totalled 1,250,000 tons. Naval tonnage produced in the last quarter of 1941 was four times as great as that produced in the last quarter before the war; merchant tonnage, twice as great.

♦♦♦

Thousands of yards of machine-gun belts are now being produced in India for the first time. Some of the modern high-powered guns from India's armoury fire hundreds of rounds a minute.

The main object of a balloon barrage is not to destroy aircraft but to deter the enemy in dive-bombing and low-level attacks. To the pilot of a high-speed aircraft the balloon cable is invisible and unless he is prepared to face great risks he is forced to fly so high that accurate bombing is more difficult and ground strafing impossible.

♦♦♦

More than 6,000 vehicles have been converted to use producer gas and quotas of steel have been obtained for conversion of another 12,000 vehicles within the next six months.

♦♦♦

In the first 30 months of the war British Empire shipyards had delivered more than 500 new fighting ships.

♦♦♦

Of Kenya's 18,000 able-bodied Indian men between the ages of 18 and 50 years, 3,200 are already with H.M. Forces as enlisted men or enrolled civilians; 6,000 are working for such important concerns as the railway, P.W.D. and in Government offices; and the remainder are engaged in Commerce or are employed by commercial firms, many of which are doing war work; in the whole of Kenya there are left only 900 skilled Indian artisans who are not directly employed on a war job.

♦♦♦

The Defence Services in the United Kingdom have already saved over 18,000,000 gallons of petrol a year, firstly by having a Service Motor Transport "Rest Day" once a week, and secondly by reducing the speeds of all services motor vehicles not actually employed on operational duties.

♦♦♦

Britain is now producing twice as many tanks as in August, 1941, three times as many as in February, 1941, and five times as many as in August, 1940.

♦♦♦

Out of nearly 610,000 workers employed on all Class I Railways in British India and enjoying the protection of the International Labour Conventions, as many as 485,000 are covered by the Hours of Employment Regulations. During the year 1940-41, the staff of the Supervisor of Railway Labour inspected no fewer than 6,300 railway establishments, carrying out routine inspections as well as special investigations on specific problems.

♦♦♦

On June 10, 1942, the Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Attlee) gave these casualty figures to the House of Commons. They cover the first two years of War from September 3, 1939, to September 2, 1941:—

	Killed	Wounded	Missing	Prisoners	Total
United Kingdom .. ..	42,267	32,903	16,208	53,634	145,012
Dominions .. ..	4,656	7,279	8,785	3,104	23,824
India & Burma .. ..	1,439	5,374	64	1,714	8,591
Colonies .. ..	611	837	4,699	6	6,153





TECHNICAL TRAINEES WORKING AT LATHES IN A TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTRE SOMEWHERE IN THE PUNJAB

## INDIA ANSWERS WAR DEMANDS

**N**ow on the door-step of the fourth year of the war, few industries in India, big or small, are unaffected directly or indirectly by activities connected with war production. If the war months of 1939-40 were months of exploration, 1940-41 was a year of planning and 1941-42 and beyond, the gradual fulfilment of an expanding industrial war effort.

In the first year of the war, India executed war orders to the total value of Rs. 83 crores. By the end of the second year, they rose to nearly Rs. 165 crores and as at July 31, this year, they totalled Rs. 365 crores. War orders are now being placed at the rate of nearly Rs. 20 crores a month.

In 1939, the integration of Indian industries to war potential needed only one Director-General of Supply, and a Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council shared the responsibility of the Supply Department with that of another Department of Government.

By 1941, the position was that a Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council was exclusively in charge of the supply and production problems of the country. The Executive responsibility was spread over three Directorates-General, the Directorate-General of Munitions Production, the Directorate-General of Supply and the Directorate-General of Ship Repairs and Ship Construction and two parallel organisations, the Planning and Purchase Officers are for ever tapping new sources and planning new capacities.

### Munitions Output

In the munitions field output is many times pre-war capacity. Six times the pre-war output of rifles, eight times of machineguns, ten times of bayonets, twenty-four times of gun ammunition and nine times of guns and gun carriages, are a few of the new production figures.

To enable these increases more than Rs. 7,00,00,000 have been spent on expansion

projects and a further Rs. 16,00,00,000 expansion scheme is already in hand. New types of shell, including 25 pdr., 3.7" anti-aircraft, various types of armour piercing anti-tank shells and new types of guns, including the 3.7" anti-aircraft gun are regularly in production.

High explosives such as T.N.T. are manufactured at these factories for the first time in India. Large plants have now been installed for the manufacture of toluene, acetone, kieselgurh, mineral jelly and various acids.

### War Technicians

Increasing equipment and intensive training are turning out a new body of technicians, the men of steel, machine, tool workers, munitions workers, the saddler, the engineer, the chemist and a host of other trained personnel. Two hundred and fifty men were sent out for training in Britain under the Bevin Training Scheme;





INDIA'S "FLOAT" AT THE UNITED NATIONS WAR PARADE, HELD IN NEW YORK IN JUNE 1942, WAS 35 FEET HIGH

122 have already returned after training. Every quarter for the duration of the war, 50 more men will proceed for training; 39,000 trainees have so far been enrolled under the Technical Training Scheme.

Equipment flows into India, as far as war conditions and the simultaneous needs in more than one manufacturing area permit, from the United Kingdom and the United States. The American Technical Mission have recently sponsored several new plants and machine tools and have agreed to send special supervisory staff.

India has also undertaken manufacture of alloy steels. Experiments for the contents of ferro-tungsten and vanadium from Indian ore are being made and new plants are on order.

The alloys will form valuable components of special steels, the tools and raw materials of modern industry. Manufacture of ferro-silicon has been established in one Indian factory and at least half of India's requirements will be met from this source.

#### Aluminium Manufacture

The production of aluminium in India will begin shortly on a scale which is ultimately expected to enable India to meet her requirements of this metal.

To carry out the various munitions projects many civil engineering works of a major nature have also come into being. At the outset of the war, there were about 600 trade workshops known to be available. The Directorate-General of Munitions Production is now using 1,500 engineering workshops—840 for general engineering

items, over 300 for small tools and 345 plus 23 railway workshops for munitions components. Apart from establishments contracting with the Government directly, a very large number of small manufacturers are employed as sub-contractors.

The value of textiles purchased for the armed forces up to June 1942, amounted to Rs. 120 crores. In the coming year it is expected to be nearly Rs. 70 crores. The value of tents during the present year is Rs. 12 crores and of army blankets Rs. 5 crores.

The output of clothing is now over 10 million garments a month. Before the war the army was clothed by one factory; there are now ten clothing factories linked with a large number of tailoring centres employing 100,000 men in all. A parachute factory has also been opened for the production of parachute equipment.

The Government Harness and Saddlery Factory has expanded its working staff from 2,000 to 15,000 men. In addition, some 700 contractors employ about 34,000 men to supplement production. The combined total outturn is valued at approximately Rs. 20 crores per annum.

Production of army boots in India has been increased from 1½ million pairs in 1941 to the present output of four million pairs.

#### Timber Industry

Timber production has increased from 242,000 tons in 1940-41 to 396,000 tons in 1941-42, and in 1942-43 it is expected to reach a total of about 500,000 tons, valued about Rs. 6 crores. In the woodware

industries the 1942-43 output is expected to reach about Rs. 4 crores.

Well over 30,000 men are engaged in the various shipbuilding and repairing yards in India.

Pith helmets, nearly 5 million a year, cotton-jute union canvas, 10 million yards, cotton textiles, nearly 1,000 million yards, are other items of India's expanded production for Defence Services. The wool industry is on a 100 per cent war basis. The cotton industry has set apart 35 per cent of total production for war purposes, besides catering in an increasing measure to the civilian needs of India with the necessary curtailment of imports.

#### Manufacture Of Drugs

In peace-time, indigenous production of medical instruments for the Defence Services was small and limited to a few simple instruments. Since the war not only has the indigenous industry practically kept pace with Defence Services demand, but it has enabled India to supply Russia with approximately 80,000 instruments of indigenous production.

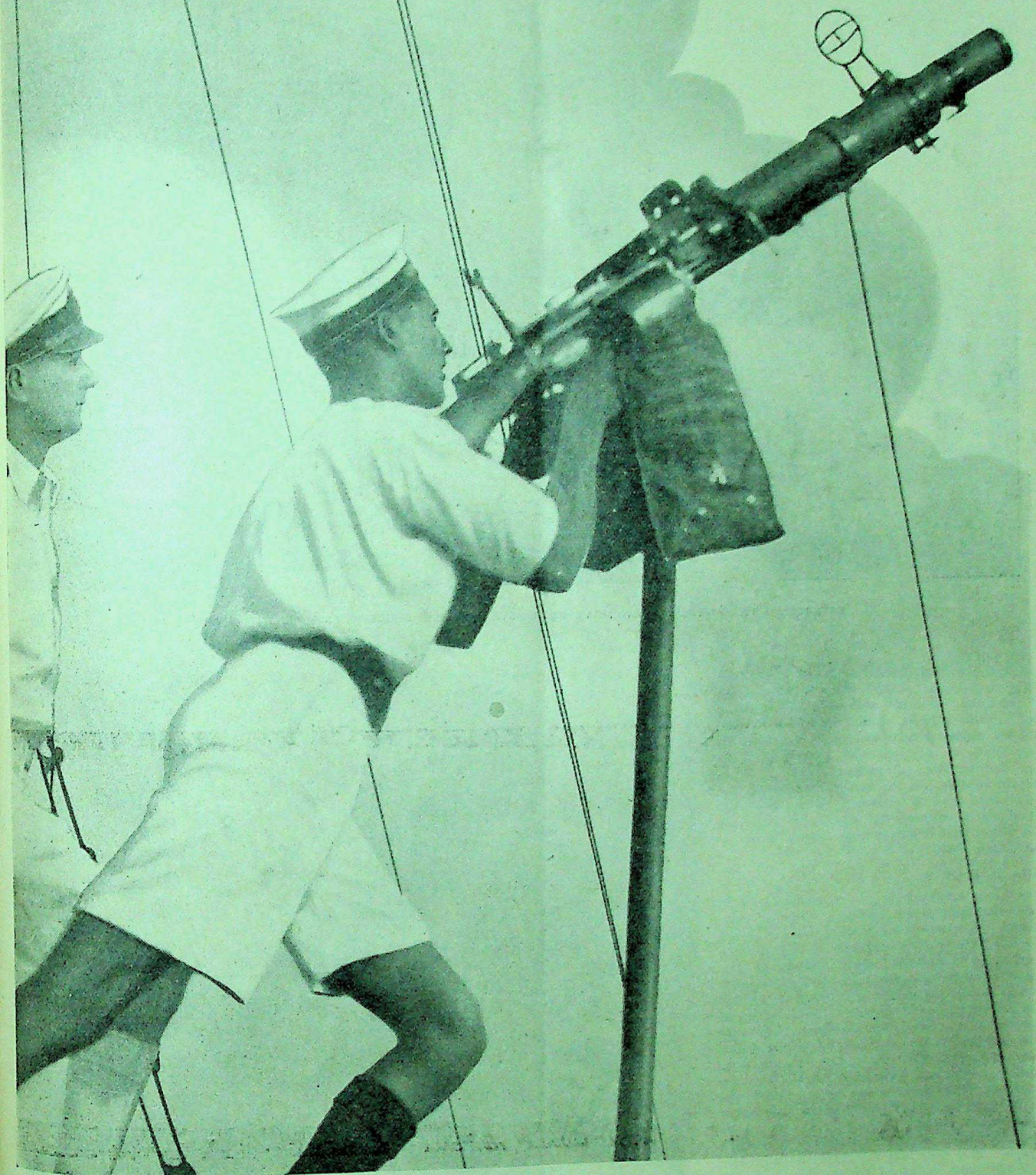
The approximate value of instruments, etc., inspected and accepted averages monthly from Rs. 4 to 5 lakhs.

Approximately 300 items of drugs and dressings, formerly imported, are manufactured in India. One Government Medical Store Depot is turning out a million dressings per month, while another produces 120,000 lbs. of cotton wool and 18,000 lbs. of lint monthly.

But progress is continuous. There is no room for complacency.

INDIAN INFORMATION, NOVEMBER 1, 1942





**Ships of the Royal Indian Navy** have been in action in the Red Sea and Persian Gulf campaigns and in the Battle of the Atlantic, besides performing their routine duties in the protection of commerce in Indian waters

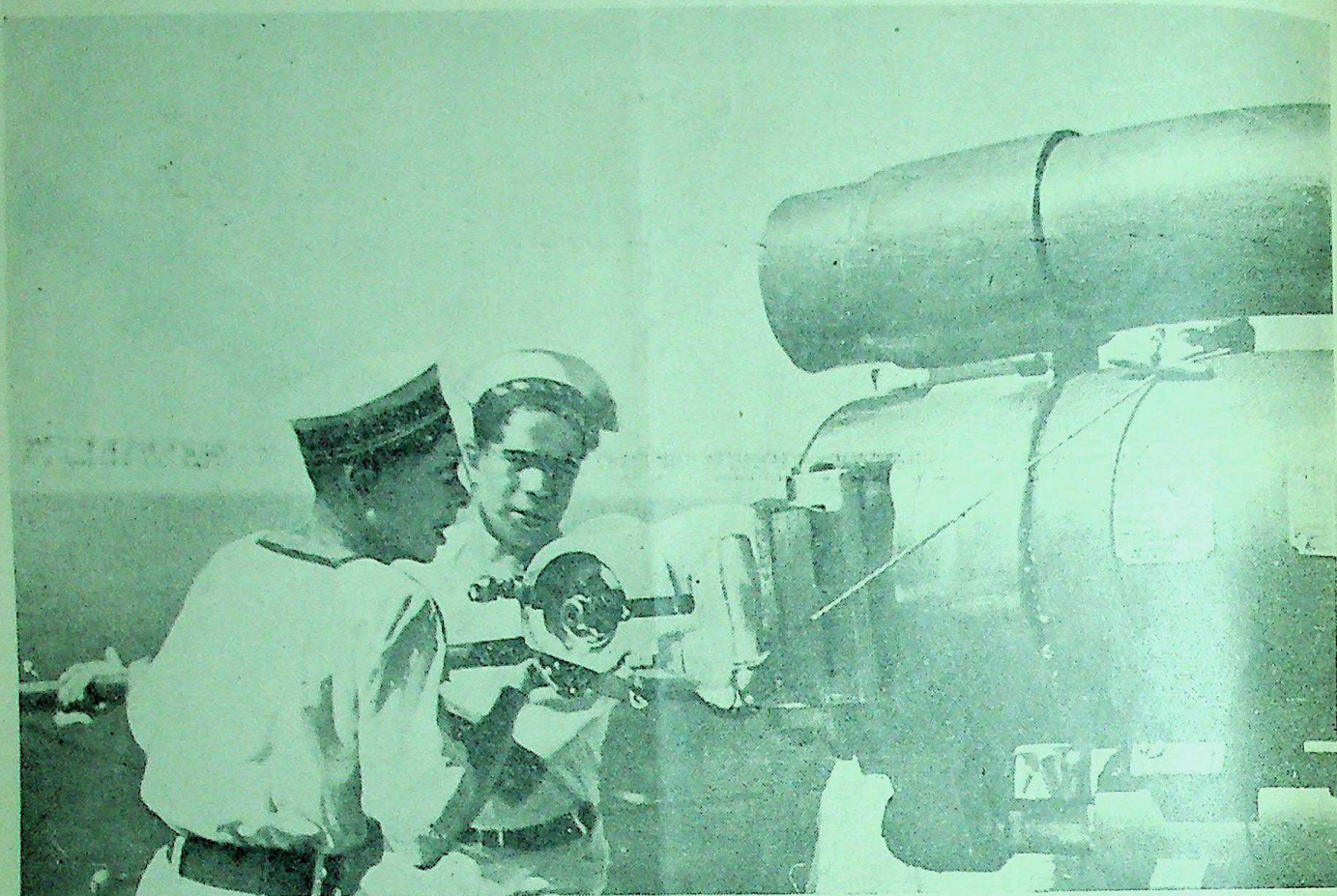
## GUNNERY TRAINING IN THE R.I.N.

In Indian ports hundreds of men are trained every week in the handling of guns and automatic weapons mounted in merchant ships to protect them against attack by the enemy. This training is given by officers and higher gunnery ratings of the Royal Indian Navy and by N.C.Os. of the Royal Marines.

The personnel under instruction fall into three groups. First, there are members of

the merchant vessels' own crews. But in some merchant ships there is not a large enough crew to provide all the men needed for specialised gunnery duties at sea. To these vessels therefore are allocated either naval ratings belonging to the "Defensively Equipped Merchant Service" (D.E.M.S. for short) or else soldiers from the Army's Maritime A.A. Regiments. Like the merchant seamen, these D.E.M.S. ratings and soldiers are trained ashore under officers





RATINGS OF THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY DEMONSTRATE THEIR EFFICIENCY AS A GUN CREW

of the Royal Indian Navy; in their case the instruction chiefly takes the form of "refresher" courses and practice in firing at aircraft targets, though they have also to be initiated into any new methods introduced to counter the submarine and bomber menace. A proportion of the merchant seamen, on the other hand, go to the training centres without any previous experience of gunnery, but their keenness is such that they quickly learn what is required of them.

#### The D. E. M. S.

The development of the D.E.M.S. and the Maritime Regiments is a story of constant effort to protect merchant shipping in all parts of the world against the enemy's policy of "sink at sight". Early in the war naval pensioners, time-expired seamen and Royal Marines were detailed to act as gunlayers and to take charge of mercantile gun crews. But so many men were needed that it was decided to recruit direct for the D.E.M.S. Even so, there were more guns than personnel, and after the collapse of France it was arranged by the Admiralty and the War Office that a number of soldiers should be lent to the Navy to supplement D.E.M.S. ratings in merchant ships. Not only did the Army supply men for the guns provided by the Navy, but it also lent complete gun crews with their anti-aircraft weapons. From these beginnings grew the present Maritime Regiments. Inspired by the fine comradeship of the sea, their personnel work side by side with D.E.M.S. ratings and merchant seamen on duties essential for the maintenance of the British Commonwealth's world-wide communications.

In addition to providing training facilities with the latest devices and instructional films, naval staffs at Indian ports allocate D.E.M.S. personnel and men from the Maritime Regiments to ships needing them, and are responsible for the mounting and



R. I. N. SAILORS UNDER INSTRUCTION. SCENE FROM F.A.B. FILM "SEAMEN OF INDIA"

maintenance of the guns. At sea the task of keeping armament in good order is performed by the trained men aboard, and the Navy ensures that they possess the requisite proficiency. To meet all these

requirements a large organisation has been built up in India, where its work is a guarantee that merchant ships shall be able to return blow for blow should they be attacked.





ENGINEER CADET AT WORK IN THE MECHANICAL TRAINING ESTABLISHMENT OF R.I.N.

of the Royal Navy and the fleets of Allied nations. On a working day some time ago the flags of several of these countries were seen as well as the White Ensign, while beneath them rose the clang of tools and machinery as Indian workmen applied their technical knowledge to the ships' needs. There has been so much to do in recent months that some orders have been diverted to private firms, which in carrying them out act under the supervision of R.I.N. dockyard staffs.

The more complicated types of machinery needed to refit a modern warship come to India from Europe, but a great quantity of Indian material and Indian-made equipment is used every month, including hundreds of tons of Indian steel and large stocks of timber and stores. Orders are also carried out for naval shore establishments, and launches and other craft are built.

A dockyard is a well-knit organisation, and in India each branch has brought its skill and technical knowledge to bear on the problems raised by the increase of work. The Constructive Department deals with repairs to hulls; the Engineering Department attends to engine and boiler rooms, as well as, to some extent, to armament.

In warships of today electricity plays a most important role; this side of dockyard activities is the concern of the Electrical Department. The stores organisation provides a multitudinous variety of items, but those for ships' armament are the responsibility of the Ordnance Group.

The army of workmen is divided into a large number of skilled trades. For these employees' benefit a welfare organisation exists, supplying free medical treatment and other facilities.

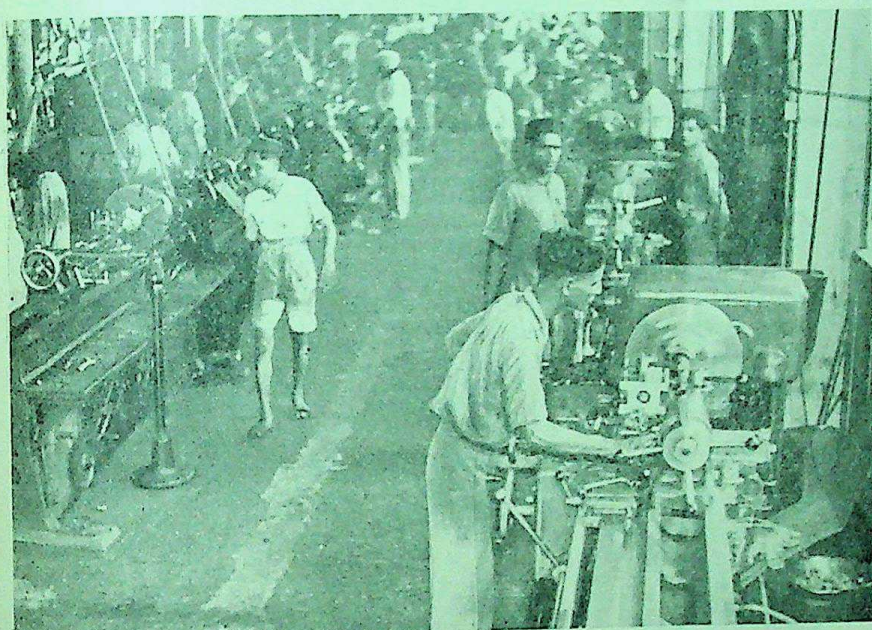
### NEW R.I.N. SHIP LAUNCHED

A new ship for the Royal Indian Navy was recently launched at an Indian port. She will be employed on mine-sweeping and anti-submarine duties.

The first vessel to be built for the Navy in an Indian yard was H.M.I.S. *Travancore*, which was followed by H.M.I.S. *Baroda*. Since then a number of vessels, some named after Indian States and important Indian towns, have left the stocks at regular intervals, while others are under construction. In various parts of India, shipyards are working to capacity on orders for naval vessels and smaller craft, a new keel being laid as soon as possible after a launching has taken place. In this way more and still more ships of modern design and with up-to-date equipment are becoming available for the defence of India's long coastline and enormously valuable sea-borne trade.

To provide officers and men for them the Navy's training establishments have been and are being constantly expanded.

The latest methods of hunting and destroying submarines, which will be one of the new ship's main duties, are taught to R.I.N. personnel at a shore establishment whose expansion illustrates the Navy's present development. At this School the number of officers and men under training has increased 2½ times in the last six months alone. In its class rooms R.I.N. personnel are able, by the use of ingenious instruments, to practise operations against submarines in conditions as closely resembling those at sea as is possible. Ratings who specialise in this type of work wear a highly prized badge displaying a coil of rope crossed by a harpoon and flash of lightning. So great is the demand on the School's facilities that an entirely new establishment has been planned.



SCENE IN AN R.I.N. DOCKYARD WHERE SHIPS ARE REFITTED AND OVERHAULED

## WARSHIPS REPAIRED IN INDIA

One of India's contributions to the United Nations' war effort consists in making the Royal Indian Navy's dockyard facilities available to warships of other Navies. These facilities have been fully utilised since hostilities began, but the fall of Singapore greatly increased their importance.

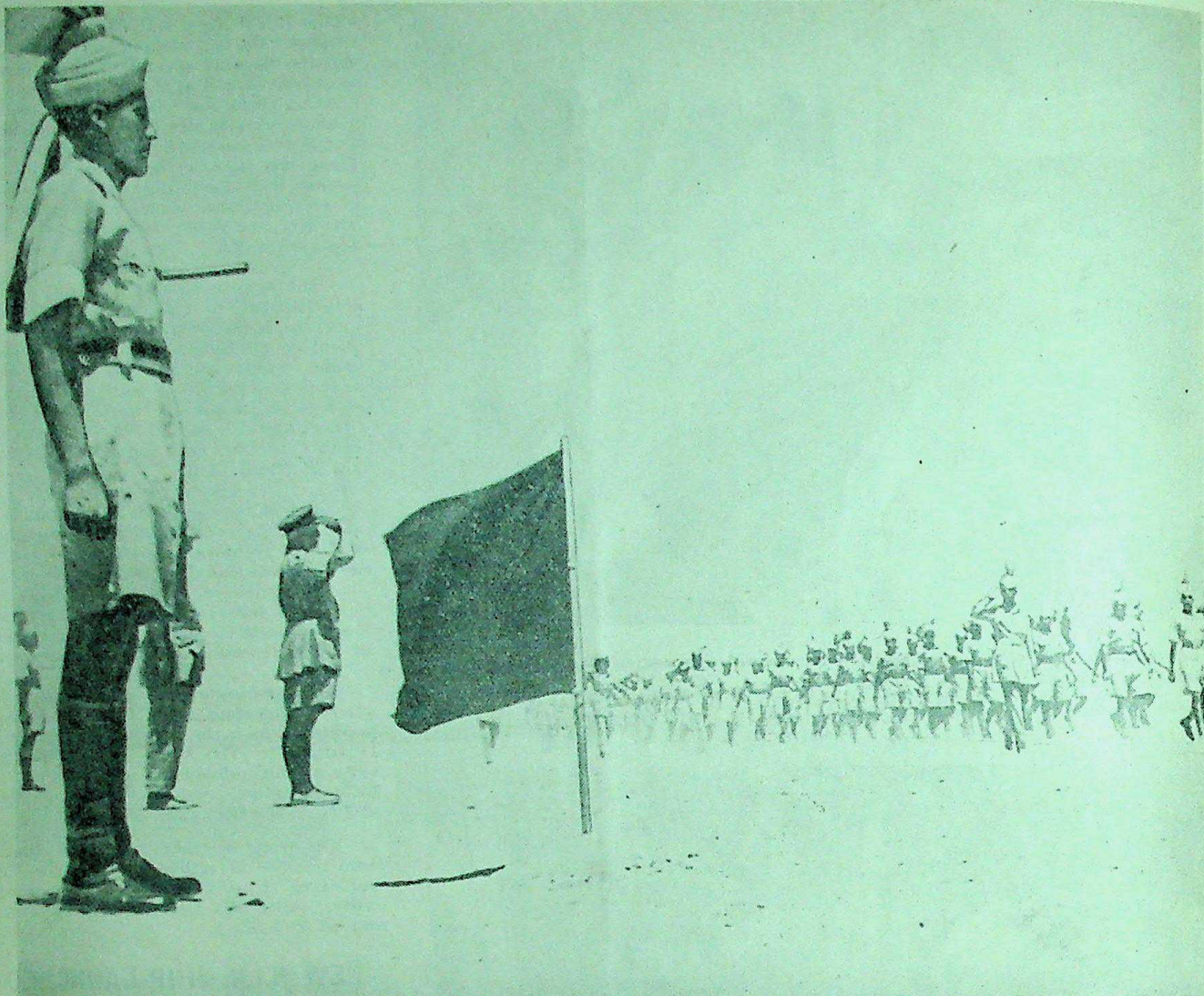
Men-of-war like those that fought in the European conflicts of the period were built and repaired in India as long ago

as the 17th century. In one port the site of the dockyard was chosen by the first of a distinguished line of Parsi shipbuilders 200 years ago, and in it were constructed warships both for India and the Royal Navy.

#### Indian Materials

During the present war the Royal Indian Navy's dockyard facilities have been used not only for its own vessels but also for repairing and refitting warships





General Sir Archibald Wavell, during his recent visit to the Middle East theatre of war, inspected many units of the Indian Army in Egypt. Here, he takes the salute at the march past of an Indian Armoured unit

## WAVELL VISITS INDIAN TROOPS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

During the visit to the Middle East from which he recently returned, General Sir Archibald Wavell, during the spare time available to him, took the opportunity of visiting as many Indian troops as possible.

He went to see the Indian soldiers up the line at Ruweisat Ridge, and others resting, training and refitting. Among the units visited were battalions of the 3rd Gurkhas, 11th Sikhs, 7th Rajput Regiment, 6th Rajputana Rifles, 10th Baluchis, and the 13th Frontier Force Regiment. He also contacted personnel of the Central India Horse, Skinners Horse, Guides Cavalry, and the 13th Lancers.

### HONORARY RANK OF MAJOR

His Majesty the King-Emperor has approved the promotion of Captain His Highness Beglar Begi Mir Sir Ahmad Yar Khan, G.C.I.E., Khan of Kalat, to the honorary rank of Major in the Army.



GENERAL WAVELL TALKING TO INDIAN OFFICERS NOW SERVING IN EGYPT

INDIAN INFORMATION, NOVEMBER 1, 1942





MR. CHURCHILL BIDDING FAREWELL AT THE END OF HIS TOUR OF R.A.F. STATIONS IN THE WESTERN DESERT

## AWARDS FOR SERVICES IN THE WESTERN DESERT

### I. D. S. M.

#### Saved Two Men

Coolness in destroying valuable equipment, thus preventing it from falling into enemy hands, and saving two wounded men from becoming prisoners, has been recognised by an award of the Indian Distinguished Service Medal.

When enemy tanks broke through at Got-el-Hamris on May 27 an order to retire was given. Sowar Alim Khan, a member of the 3rd Indian Motor Brigade, remained behind long enough to destroy a quantity of signal equipment under the nose of a German tank.

Then he jumped into a truck and drove off. He was fired upon, but stopped to pick up two wounded men. When the truck was damaged and the occupants had to walk he assisted the wounded men to reach our lines five miles away.

Sowar Alim Khan is a Muslim and comes from Jodhpur State.



#### Daring Escape

With his gun out of action, his ammunition exhausted, and all but one of his crew dead, Havildar Lall Khan, a member of an Indian Anti-Tank Regiment, decided to withdraw.

German tanks had overrun his position, but the Havildar put his fellow survivor into a truck, and tried to crash his way out of the ring of steel which surrounded them.

A German officer ordered them to halt, but the Havildar ignored the levelled pistol, and drove straight at the officer, who had to jump for his life.

Point-blank fire from the tanks' machine-guns swept the truck, but the Havildar kept on, and succeeded in re-joining his battery.

This happened near Knight-bridge during desert fighting early in June, and it has earned the I.D.S.M. for Havildar Khan, who is a Mussalman Rajput from Sagri village in the Rawalpindi District.



#### Initiative

Forced to surrender to an enemy tank commander, Dafadar Risal Singh, a member of an Indian Motor Brigade, was ordered to climb on to the tank, which was carrying him to captivity.

Then our guns began shelling the tank. Dafadar Singh jumped off, and lay on the ground, feigning death. The tank retreated.

Leaping to his feet Dafadar Singh raced to an unattended truck, and was going to drive it off when he saw some more Indian soldiers. He loaded them into the truck.

A moment later he saw another truck and some more soldiers. He filled this truck, and attached a tow rope to it. Then he drove the procession to safety.

This happened under heavy fire at Got-el-Hamari on May 27, and his "initiative, great determination and inspiration to the men under his command" has won Dafadar Risal Singh the Indian Distinguished Service Medal.



#### Courage

Less romantic than firing a gun or charging with a bayonet is the job of repairing wires, but it is just as important, and it can require just the same courage.

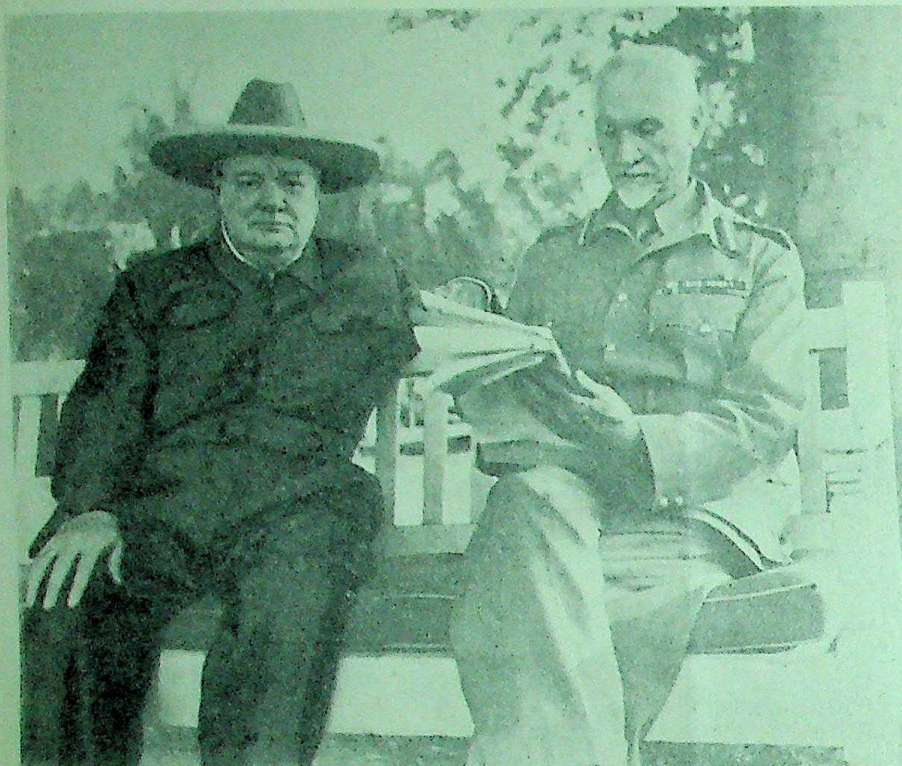
When the 2nd Indian Field Regiment went into action a few miles south-east of Bir Hacheim on May 27, Naik Kehar Singh was entrusted with the vital task of maintaining communications between Observation Post and guns.

Time and again the wire was cut by enemy artillery, but a few minutes later it was in operation again. Naik Singh, cool and unflinching, worked under a hail of shells on ground swept by machine-gun fire.

When at last the position was overrun, and there was no more work to do mending wires, he might have retreated. Instead he went forward and assisted in extricating a gun.



# DEFENCE



MR. CHURCHILL AND FIELD MARSHAL SMUTS (RIGHT) IN THE BRITISH EMBASSY GARDENS AT CAIRO

For this exhibition of courage and devotion to duty Naik Singh, who comes from Rurka village in Ludhiana district, has been awarded the Indian Distinguished Service Medal.

◆◆◆

**Defied Fire** "Cheerfulness and courage which were an inspiration and steady influence to all around him" have won the Indian Distinguished Service Medal for Lance-Dafadar Dalip Singh, a member of the P.A.V.O. Cavalry in the Western Desert.

During a battle near Bir Hacheim on May 27 Lance-Dafadar Singh, a Sikh Jat from Khawaspur in Amritsar district, defied fire from all sides in order to pass on messages from his squadron commander.

When withdrawal became necessary, he was responsible for preventing several vehicles from falling into enemy hands by finding drivers for them, and waiting behind himself until the last one had been removed to safety.

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**Exemplary Courage** Exemplary courage of Indian anti-tank gunners, resulting in the destruction of eight German tanks near Bir Hacheim on May 27, has led to three awards of the Indian Distinguished Service Medal to men of the 2nd Indian Field Regiment.

The first award has been made to Havildar Bahadur Khan, a Muslim Rajput from Pindmalu in Campbellpur district. He was moving his gun into position when enemy tanks made a determined attack. He at once brought his gun into action, and hit two tanks.

Forced to withdraw to a new position, he hit another tank. He showed great courage and coolness throughout the action, and set a fine example to his detachment.

During a fierce engagement with enemy tanks Havildar Ghulam Ali, a Punjabi

Mussalman, set a fine example before his men, who fought magnificently and knocked out two tanks.

Great courage in directing fire against a number of advancing tanks was displayed by Lance-Naik Yesudas, a Christian from Kanigiri in Nellore district. His gun crew accounted for three tanks.

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**Eluded Enemy Vehicles** Defying tank and artillery fire, Risaldar Lakkan Singh, serving in the Western Desert with the Royal Lancers, on May 27, crossed and re-crossed 200 yards of ground in order to extricate an entire section.

He was taken prisoner on one occasion, but managed to escape and collect 50 men. In order to elude enemy vehicles which gave chase he led his party across one of our minefields.

Risaldar Singh is a Hindu Rajput from Moradabad, and his great courage and initiative in the face of the enemy has earned him the Indian Distinguished Service Medal.

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**"Splendid Example"** For displaying great courage in repairing telephone wires during heavy shelling near Bir Hacheim on May 27, Havildar Santokh Singh, a member of the 2nd Indian Field Regiment Signal Section, has been awarded the Indian Distinguished Service Medal.

The line was continually being broken, but Havildar Singh, who is a Sikh Jat of Chak 74 J.B., Lyallpur district, personally superintended its repair and maintained communications throughout the action.

"It was by his inspiration and splendid example that the section functioned so well during the action," wrote Havildar Singh's Commanding Officer in recommending him for the award.

## I O. M.

**Devotion To Duty** With every one of his men either killed or wounded, Lance-Dafadar Mahboob Ali Khan, a member of the Royal Lancers, in the Western Desert, kept his anti-tank gun firing until enemy tanks overwhelmed the position, and he, too, was killed.

The action took place near Bir Hacheim on May 27. For his "great courage and devotion to duty" Lance-Dafadar Khan, a Pathan from Bareilly City, was posthumously awarded the I.O.M.

The full story of his heroism, pieced together from evidence collected after the battle, discloses that the gun was in a very exposed position, and immediately came under the heaviest fire from approaching tanks.

One by one the gun crew became casualties, until only the commander remained. He loaded and fired the gun single-handed. How well he fought is proved by his measure of success, for around his battered and broken gun was found the wreckage of six enemy tanks. Two of them, destroyed at point-blank range, had approached within 50 yards of the gun.

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**Heroic Action** Himself wounded, and with the other members of his gun crew dead around him, Havildar Madan Singh, a member of the 2nd Indian Field Regiment, kept his anti-tank gun firing.

Wave after wave of German tanks attacked his forward position, but Havildar Madan Singh kept all at bay, laying, loading and firing his gun single-handed until he, too, fell dead.

For fighting this heroic one-man action against overwhelming odds near Bir Hacheim on May 27, Havildar Madan Singh, a Sikh Jat from Ramnagar village in Patiala State, has been posthumously awarded the I.O.M.

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## M. C. AND D. S. O.

The following awards have been granted for gallantry in action in the Western Desert:—

### The Military Cross

Major Anthony Hogarth McConnell, Indian Armoured Corps.

Captain Desmond McVeagh Reynolds, Indian Armoured Corps.

Major Miles Richard Smeeton, Indian Armoured Corps.

Major John Wickham Prentice, Indian Armoured Corps.

Major Alec Anthony John Danvers, Indian Armoured Corps.

2/Lieut. Reginald Alexander Ingleby Ball, Indian Armoured Corps.

Captain Anthony George Joseph Phillip Fernandes, I.M.S.

### The Distinguished Service Order

Major Paramasiva Prabhakar Kumaramangalam, Indian Artillery.



## DEFENCE



INDIAN RAILMEN ARE CONSTRUCTING A NEW RAILWAY LINE IN IRAQ

## GUARDING INDIA'S WESTERN GATEWAY

Men of the Indian Army, standing ready in Iraq to defend India's western gateway against the threat contained in German pressure towards the Caucasus, have found an interesting way of spending the leisure hours when they are not training for war.

They are learning languages, and so quick are they at this useful study that one Indian soldier, who a few months ago could speak only Punjabi, can now converse fluently in Arabic and Persian.

An Indian Army Observer, fresh from a tour of Indian units in Iraq, was impressed by the general fitness and fine morale of the troops, all of whom fully realise the vital part they may be called upon to play in defending their homeland against Axis aggression.

### "Doing Their Bit..."

In addition to inspecting the fighting troops, the Observer visited ammunition depots, Ordnance workshops, hospitals and staging camps. "In every case," he said, "I found these cheerful Indian soldiers doing their bit, and doing it well."

The Observer was particularly impressed by the Ordnance workshops, and the keenness of the men who comprise their staff. "In addition to carrying out their responsible duties of supplying the men in the field, these clerks and storemen are eagerly preparing themselves to do some fighting in the event of necessity."

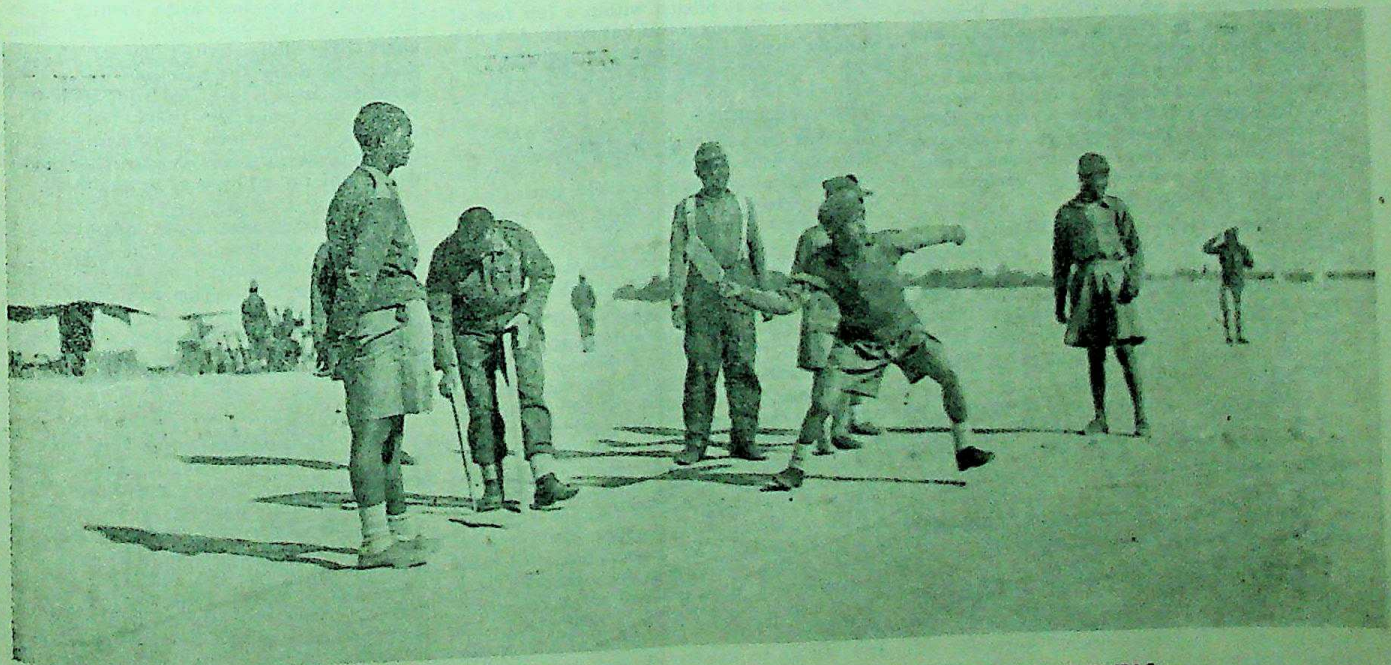
"No man is content until he has made himself proficient in the use of rifle, bayonet and machine-gun, and this training is so popular that the Commanding Officer of one Ordnance depot told me that his men asked if they might borrow weapons in order to practise with them in their spare time."

### Sappers And Miners

Another unit which impressed the Observer with its general atmosphere of keenness and efficiency was busily engaged laying new railway lines.

"These Sappers and Miners are doing a very hard job in the mid-summer heat, but all the while they were singing as they worked," he said. "I can honestly say I did not see a single man who was not smiling as he worked under the blazing sun."

In summing up his impressions of the tour the Observer said: "From everything



MEN OF A GURKHA BATTALION ENJOY A GAME OF ROUNDERS AT A CONVALESCENT CAMP IN IRAQ



## DEFENCE

GUERILLAS SCOURGE  
JAPS IN BURMA

Centuries old weapons and strategies are being used with deadly effect against the Japanese by organised guerilla bands now operating from the Assam-Burma border, writes an Indian Army Observer.

The guerillas consist largely of tribesmen such as the famous, artful Nagas, who have rallied to the cause of the United Nations. Patiently they lie in wait for prowling Japanese patrols. Frequently they choose for their ambushes, stockades and ingenious booby-traps the very sites which their less law-abiding ancestors found most suitable through generations of experience for the speedy disposal of traders, merchants and other persons of substance unwise enough to venture into the wild countryside.

So silently and swiftly do they work that frequently the leading Japanese in a small column go on their way quite unaware that the rear half has been wiped out.

Every habit of the enemy is studied before the attack is made and every feature of the countryside through which the enemy will pass is considered before the site for the assault is chosen.

For instance, one party of guerillas always does its work on the sides of hills—not, as might be expected, at the steepest part, but on a smooth, comparatively level stretch in a steep climb where, the tribesmen have found, the enemy will actually be progressing most slowly, resting his limbs and regaining his breath.

## The Weapons Used

Favourites among their many weapons are those which deal death silently—such as the *dao* (Burmese version of the famous *kukri*), the long-shafted spear, the sling, and particularly the bow and arrow. Firearms are issued to those who wish to use them, but generally they prefer to use weapons of their own making, arguing that though these are less deadly they are not dependent on supplies of ammunition.

The tribesmen show astonishing ingenuity in the making of firearms, one of their specialities being a kind of mortar made out of hide. This can only be used once, but new ones can be constructed on the spot in a few minutes. Most of the guerillas make their own gunpowder and ammunition for their own muzzle-loading guns.

Equally remarkable is the ingenuity displayed in the construction of booby-traps, which are causing the Japanese not only to become increasingly nervous but also to take elaborate, lengthy, and sometimes costly precautions. Most of these traps are so lethal that Japanese who have come into contact with them have not lived to reveal the secret, and details of these naturally cannot be published. It can be stated, however, that some of the most successful are adaptations of traps used for capturing wild animals.

INDIAN INFORMATION, NOVEMBER 1, 1942



INDIAN TROOPS ON THEIR WAY TO TAKE UP GUARD DUTIES AT AN OIL REFINERY IN IRAN

I saw and heard there is not a shadow of doubt that the Indian troops who form a part of Britain's Tenth Army are well cared for, and are fighting fit in every way. Should the war reach Iraq they are ready to spring into action at a moment's notice."

## SIKHS ESCAPE FROM ENEMY CAMP

After ten weeks of captivity and a trek of over 400 miles through the enemy lines, four Indian soldiers of the 11th Sikh Regiment walked into the British lines south of El Alamein at dawn on September 7.

They had been taken prisoner on July 1 last near the Ruweisat Ridge, states an Indian Army Observer in a cable describing the adventures of the soldiers. Subsequently they were taken further back, given some rations but very little water, and were set to work on a permanent-way intended to extend the railway to Tobruk.

After seven weeks within the Prisoner of War cage in Tobruk, where they had ample opportunity to observe the havoc wrought by the R.A.F. upon harbour installations and shipping, the Sikhs learned of the enemy's intention to evacuate them further back. They resolved to escape, collected a few days' rations and water, and crept out under cover of darkness on the night of August 18.

They wandered far without map or compass, hiding in the daytime and walking at night towards the interior, but they were later forced to return to the coast for water. Luckily they found a cistern and filled a four-gallon tin which lasted for the remainder of the trip, allowing one cup a day for each man.

After great privations and many narrow escapes the Sikhs were caught up in battle and walked between tanks and over minefields into the British lines, where they were feted.

Though emaciated, they are recovering and will shortly rejoin their regiment.

## SEARCHLIGHT CREW'S FEAT

Not content with doing their own job—which was holding enemy aircraft in their lights—an Indian searchlight crew

in the Middle East manned a machine-gun and shot down a German raider.

This feat of skill and courage, performed while heavy bombs were exploding all around, has earned the searchlight men a congratulatory message from the Air Officer Commanding, Egypt.

Here is the full story of the action, as told to an Indian Army Observer by a searchlight officer:

Very tired after travelling all day, and having been in action most of the previous night, the searchlight crew arrived at their new rendezvous—an important airfield—at dusk. By nightfall they had their lights in position, and were ready for trouble. They did not have long to wait. A force of German aircraft came over, and having identified the target by dropping flares, began to straddle it with bombs.

One plane was immediately picked up by the searchlights. Trying to dive out of the beams it passed within a few feet of one light. Taking a leaf out of the Ack-Ack gunners' book, searchlight men opened fire with a machine-gun. To their delight the plane—a Ju 88—received a stream of bullets and crashed.

This so disconcerted the pilots of following aircraft that they did not press home their attack on the airfield, but released their bombs harmlessly eight miles away.

REQUISITIONING OF LABOUR  
IN EMERGENCIES

Military Commanders have been empowered by a notification issued on September 26, 1942, to require persons to assist in doing work which in their opinion is necessary to meet an attack, or to repair or reduce the damage resulting therefrom, or to facilitate offensive and defensive operations against the enemy. In such circumstances, the success of military operations might depend on the immediate carrying out of work for which labour could not in the time available be obtained through the normal channels. Military Commanders have therefore been empowered to call upon any local labour forces which may be available to do vitally important work. Any labour so employed will receive full remuneration.



## DEFENCE

Many of the guerillas do not take part in active attacks on the enemy; but, according to instructions, concentrate on securing information of value both to our patrols, which constantly penetrate deep into Northern Burma through the guerilla "screen," and also to the attacking Air Forces of the United Nations.

### Remarkable Form Of Warfare

One of these men recently lived for many weeks on the outskirts of an important centre and regularly sold chickens to the local Japanese Commander and his officers. By this means he secured, and passed back, detailed information regarding the strength of the garrison, troop movements, and military installations.

The method by which information is sent back across the border is as extraordinary in its speed and certainty as it is in its simplicity. In this remarkable form of warfare, the ancient methods of communication are proving to be close rivals in efficiency to the ultra-modern methods being used with great success in other theatres.

And so, ceaselessly by night and day, the guerillas watch and wait, and—at the critical moment—strike, swiftly and certainly.

### INDIAN VILLAGERS BEFRIEND BRITISH TROOPS

British troops, fresh from England, made their camp near a village "somewhere in India." At first the villagers were a little apprehensive, but their fear quickly passed, and a spirit of friendliness and understanding took its place.

Weeks passed, during which the feelings of mutual goodwill ripened into real friendship, and the day before the troops were due to move on to another locality the villagers assembled outside the camp.

The headman of the village, who had been the most frequent visitor to the camp, came forward carrying garlands, and asked for the senior officer.

Then, watched by a mixed audience of villagers and troops, he gave expression to the villagers' feelings of friendship and admiration for the soldiers by performing the oriental custom of garlanding the officer.

### AWARDS FOR R.I.N. PERSONNEL

Six men of the Royal Indian Navy, who have been awarded Meritorious or Long Service Medals, have a combined record of 130 years' service in the Navy and the former Royal Indian Marine.

Eighteen years is the minimum qualifying period for receipt of the Meritorious Service Medal, the award of which is also evidence of a consistently good record. To the present list of holders have now been added Warrant Writer S. P. D'Silva with over 25 years' service, Chief Mechanician Hasan Adam (23 years' service), and Electrical Artificer Ahmed Amin (nearly 28 years). With the medal goes an annuity.

Long Service and Good Conduct Medals, with or without gratuities, have been awarded to Acting Petty Officer Ibrahim Jainu (17 years' service), Yunus Bahauddin, Stoker Class I (20 years) and Umar Adam, Stoker Class I (18 years).

## JAPANESE ATROCITIES AGAINST INDIAN SOLDIERS IN BURMA

Suffering agonies of pain after being tied up and bayoneted three times whilst a prisoner of the Japanese in Burma, a 20-year-old soldier staggered through rough jungle country for 20 days before reaching safety.

Hero of this story of determination and almost superhuman endurance is Rifleman Rangī Singh, of the 7th Burma Rifles.

Taken prisoner on May 20 during an attack made on his company while they were having breakfast, Rangī Singh for half-an-hour endured the mental agony of watching his companions being bayoneted.

The captured men, who included an Indian officer, had their hands tied behind their backs, and were ordered to sit by the roadside. Japanese soldiers then moved down the line, bayonetting each helpless victim three times in the back.

Rangī Singh remained completely conscious while he was bayoneted twice. The third thrust penetrated deeply, and in order to withdraw his bayonet the Japanese soldier had to place his foot against his victim's back.

### "Indescribable Horror"

He remembers feeling very faint, and may have lost consciousness for a time. Later he attempted to stand up, but fell forward on his face, and again became unconscious.

Rangī Singh believes that he remained in that position for three days. When he returned to consciousness, he was still lying face downwards, covered with blood, and swarming with ants.

When he looked around, a scene of indescribable horror greeted him. The bodies of his companions lay in the grotesque postures in which they had died. He recognised four of his friends among them. One soldier was still alive, but he was too weak to move. Of the Japanese there was no sign.

Rangī Singh now entered upon the most astonishing chapter of his adventures. His hands, which had been tied together with the pull-through of his rifle, were still lashed behind him, and his wounds were causing him great pain.

Disregarding these handicaps, he escaped into the jungle, walking very slowly in a crouched position because of the pain, and the fact that he found it very difficult to breathe. He travelled like this for four days before reaching a village. Once he found a pool, but he had great difficulty in drinking. At the first attempt he toppled into the water and was very nearly drowned.

Near the village he met two Garhwali soldiers, who cut his bonds. His hands were very swollen and painful, and he was unable to take food because of his agony. All but one of his wounds had closed. The villagers dressed this with tobacco leaves and camphor, and after two days it began to heal.

With the other two soldiers, he set out again, walking by day and sleeping by night. The three men lived on rice and sugar left by the retreating armies. After twelve days' travelling in this way they joined up with British and Indian troops.

Today Rifleman Rangī Singh's proudest possession is a letter sent to him by General Wavell congratulating him on his initiative, courage and endurance.

## DISILLUSIONED BY AXIS PROMISES BURMANS SEEK BRITISH PROTECTION

Disgusted with Japanese "Friendship," disillusioned by Axis "promises," prominent Burmans, formerly notorious for their anti-British attitude, are now risking death by escaping from Burma in order to band themselves over to the British military authorities in India.

For many years now British territory has been a sanctuary for persecuted peoples fleeing from Axis tyranny, but the way in which these former enemies of Britain have been disillusioned after so few months of the promised Nipponese nepotism, and have decided to throw themselves on the mercy of the British rather than continue to live under it, constitutes one of the most glaring condemnations of Axis treachery and deceit so far revealed.

Having thrown up their livelihoods, run the gauntlet of Japanese pickets and patrols,

and suffered indescribable hardships on the arduous, perilous journey across the border into Assam, these bitterly enlightened Burmans are today enjoying the protection of the Armies they would have done everything in their power to hamper only six months ago. They have now pledged themselves to work side by side with the British to bring about the expulsion of the hated Japanese from their country.

### Desperate Escape

Details of how these desperate escapes are effected and the identity of the men who escape must, for obvious reasons, remain secret, but it can be stated that among the refugees is one man whose name was famous, if not notorious, throughout Burma. He declares that there is general anger throughout the country at Japan's blatant



## DEFENCE

reversal of her promises regarding the Government of Burma, which, he asserts, is today subservient in every way to the Japanese military commander.

Another reason for bitter anger and disgust, the refugee adds, is the behaviour of the Japanese soldiers in Burma, particularly in their attitude towards Burmese women.

Like many other so-called patriots, these men who are now seeking the mercy and protection of the British, had been accustomed to carrying on their political quarrels with Great Britain on mutually understood standards.

It was a shattering surprise to them when they discovered—too late—that the Japanese did not pretend to understand these standards, far less respect them. Today they are founding all their hopes for their country on their confidence in an Allied victory.

### FINANCIAL CONCESSION FOR INDIAN SOLDIERS

Indian soldiers are to receive an important and valuable financial concession. Every complete Rs. 50 which they allow to accumulate from their pay is earning interest at the rate of six annas per quarter.

For the Government of India, believing that only the best is good enough for the country's fighting men, has given effect to this new order from July 1. This means that on October 1 many soldiers had more money to their credit than they had hoped, for considerable numbers of men already have amounts of Rs. 50 in their accounts.

In the past there has been no special financial inducement to persuade Indian soldiers to refrain from drawing the full pay to which they are entitled, but many have nevertheless taken the long-sighted view, and have left behind a percentage to be placed to their account each month. It is these men whose thrift was rewarded on October 1.

#### New Concession

It is expected that the new concession will make a big appeal to soldiers who previously have not been accustomed to "putting something aside for a rainy day." Their money will begin to earn interest the moment they accumulate Rs. 50.

The soldier who refrains from drawing his full pay builds up for himself a comfortable reserve, to be drawn upon either at the termination of his service, or at any time prior to that when he feels the need for extra money.

In addition he has the peace of mind which comes with the knowledge that his savings are absolutely safe, guarded and held in trust for him by the Government, which will not only charge him nothing for this service, but will now actually pay him interest on the money.

The new order benefits every rank of the Indian Army, from Viceroy's Commissioned Officers down to the newest recruit and enrolled non-combatant, but special care is being taken to respect religious susceptibilities, and no interest will be credited to anybody who does not desire to receive it.

## SERVICES NEED PHOTOGRAPHS OF JAP-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

Naval, Military and Air authorities in India are urgently in need of photographs, postcards and panoramic views depicting landscapes, rivers, roads, beaches, installations, towns, villages, population, etc., in Burma, Malaya, Sumatra, and Siam.

The general public is requested to forward copies of any photographs containing details, addressed to the Chief of the General Staff (M. I.), General Headquarters, New Delhi, where they will be gratefully received.

Information as to the locality, date taken, etc., of the photographs should be written on the back.

Objects behind this appeal for photographs depicting scenes in Malaya, Burma and other occupied countries, were explained by an Indian Army Intelligence Officer in an interview on August 31.

The principal reason for requesting members of the general public in possession of such photographs to submit them to be "enlisted" into the war effort, is that it is desired to supplement the information which can be obtained from existing maps.

While very few parts of the world's surface now remain uncharted, the majority of maps of thinly populated areas contain only such important features as the principal rivers, mountain ranges and similar information.

In warfare it is often the small details which prove the most important. The camera lens can record features which would be beyond the abilities of the most skilled map-makers, and it is in this connection that the general public can be most helpful.

## SCIENCE AIDS ARMY'S COOKS

Gone are the days when field service meant uninteresting meals. Science has been enlisted by the army to provide peacetime food for wartime kitchens.

Vegetables, at one time a luxury for troops in the front-line, are now an issue to soldiers in operational areas. This has been made possible by a process which dehydrates and compresses them. When soaked in water they regain their normal weight, taste and food value.

Other improvements which have followed a general overhaul of the military larder include the substitution of "Field Service Scale B (Non-Cooking) Rations" for the now out-of-date "Hard Scale Rations".

#### The New Scale

The new scale contains a higher calorific value to provide the extra energy which is so vital in the field. Another advantage is that, unlike the old scale, which was designed for daily consumption up to a maximum of five consecutive days, it can be issued for extended periods.

Ordinary views, whether country or town, can have a high interest for military commanders endeavouring to ascertain the class of terrain over which troops will have to fight. An important decision on strategy may turn on the evidence of one amateur snapshot which, though perhaps taken on holiday under essentially peacetime and carefree conditions, can possibly provide a final touch to the successful conduct of a campaign.

The Intelligence Officer emphasised that special apparatus is often capable of discerning details in photographs not visible to the naked eye. By the addition of a third dimension a photograph of what appears to be a flat surface can be made to reveal features which make it possible to calculate heights of hills and width of rivers.

### GRANT OF FINANCIAL AID FOR SOLDIERS' FAMILIES

The Government of India have had under consideration the question of grant of financial assistance to the families or dependants in India of European British subjects who have been detained in the Far East due to enemy action.

The Government of India have now decided that such families or dependants as are without means of support should be helped by means of monetary advances against undertakings to repay. Applicants for assistance are, therefore, advised to apply with full particulars to the Government of the Province, in which they are resident.

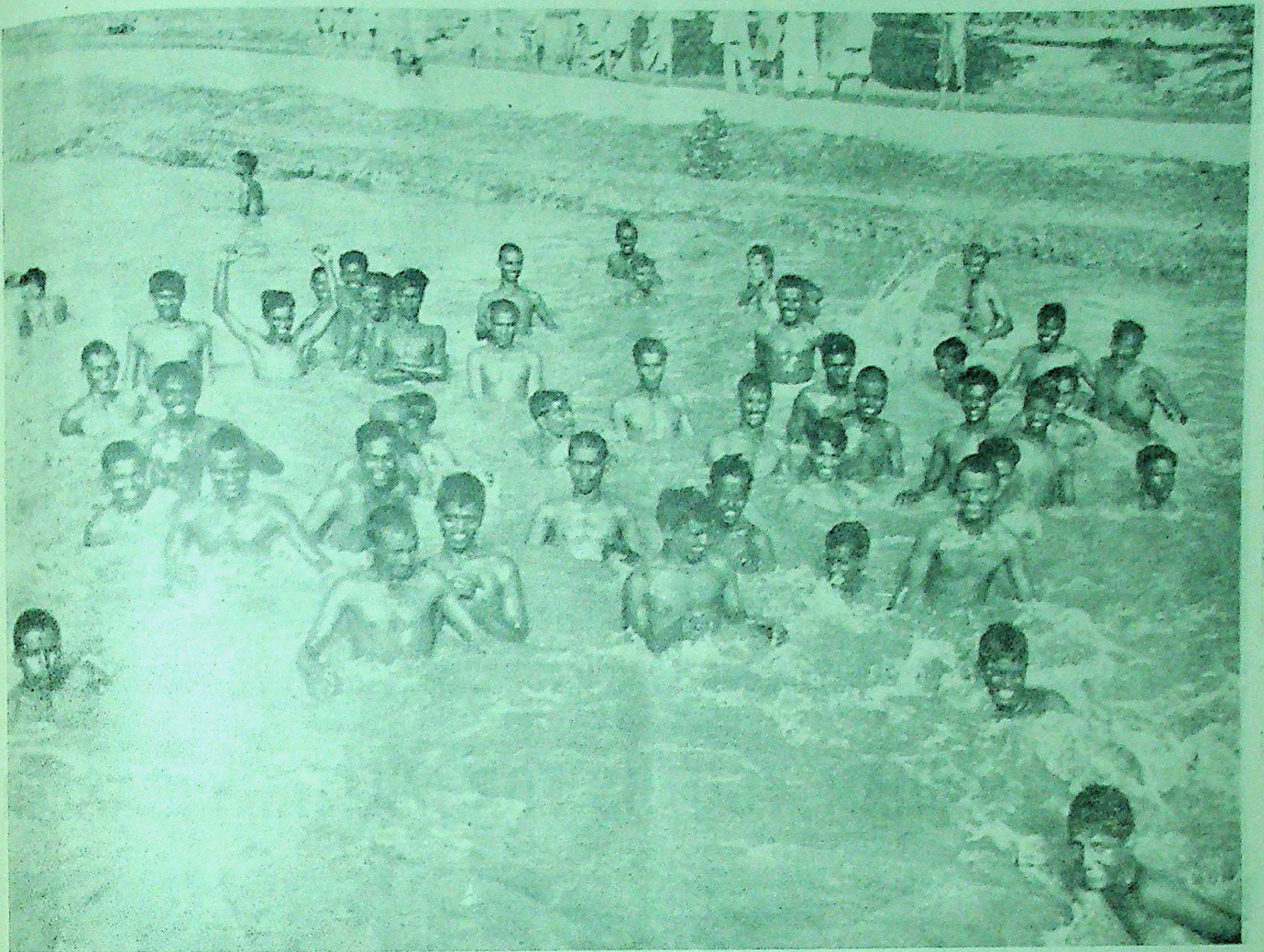
Providing a much more palatable and varied diet, the new scale consists of shakapara biscuits, sugar, tea, ghee, milk, salt and roasted groundnuts. Smokers are remembered with the inclusion of cigarettes and matches, and the inclusion of briquetted nuts and raisins has a special appeal for Indian troops.

In order to boil water for tea-making, "Tommy Cookers," which work on solidified methylated spirit have been devised and are included in the new scale.

The normal scale of rations, as issued in peacetime, remains unchanged for troops in non-operational areas, but a new "Road and Rail Scale" has been devised to eliminate excessive demands on railway refreshment rooms.

It is significant that, at a time when the Axis countries are having to tighten the national belt, British and Indian troops are being provided with even brighter and more nourishing meals.





Modern warfare requires that soldiers should be competent swimmers, and the War Department has sanctioned the provision of swimming pools at 28 training centres in India. Here, new army recruits enjoy their dip

## SOLDIERS MUST BE SWIMMERS

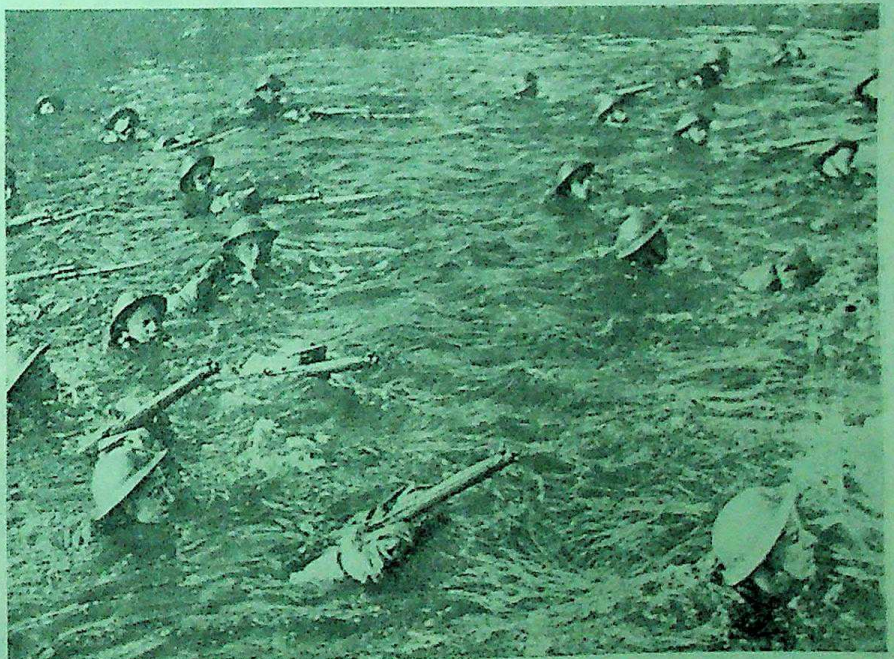
Soon our troops will be able to beat the Japanese at their own game, for the army in India is becoming amphibious.

Japanese landings and infiltrations in Malaya showed that it is as necessary for soldiers to be able to swim as to march. Now we are using that knowledge in Burma, where increasing patrol activity often involves crossing wide rivers.

In order that every soldier shall feel as much at home in the water as he does on land, swimming baths, as already announced, are being added at an estimated cost of Rs. 3,24,000 initial and Rs. 1,12,000 recurring to 28 training centres throughout the country. Each one is in charge of a fully-qualified instructor, and just being able to swim is not good enough for the army.

Beginners are permitted to wear bathing costumes, but soon soldiers are plunging into the water wearing full uniform and equipment. They must carry their arms and ammunition in such a way that it will be ready for instant action when they emerge. A mouthful of water is nothing to worry about. A muzzelful is a tragedy.

When soldiers have been taught how to get themselves and their equipment to the other side they must go back and learn how to convey stores and heavier items across water obstacles.



TROOPS IN FULL KIT SWIMMING ACROSS A RIVER DURING MANŒUVRES IN BRITAIN

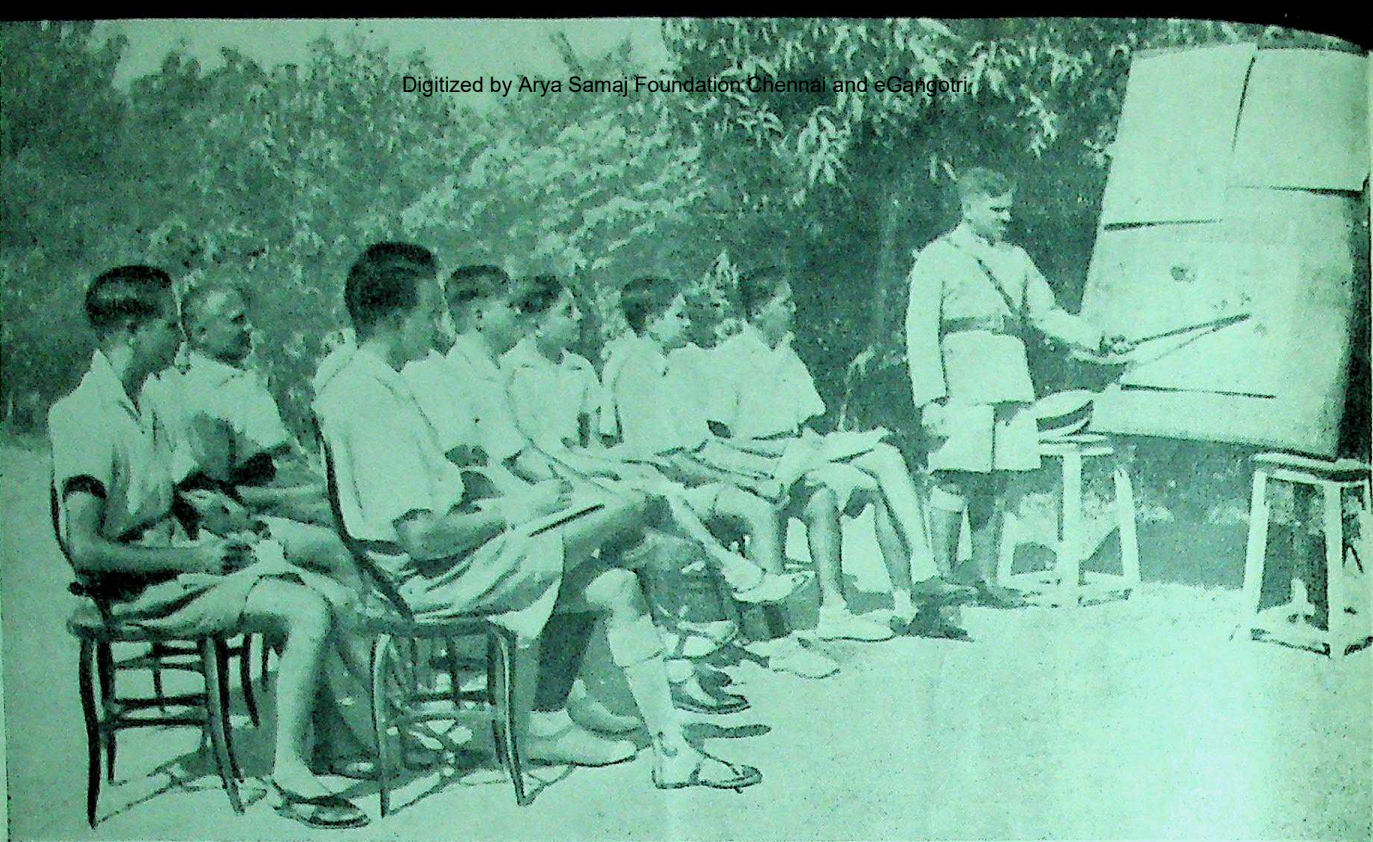
## OFFICER CADETS' GIFT

A further sum of Rs. 10,500 has been subscribed voluntarily by the Cadets, Administrative and Instructional Staffs, and other personnel of the Officers Training School, Bangalore, for the purchase of one

more armoured carrier for the Army in India.

Only two months ago it was announced that a similar sum had been subscribed by the Training School for the purchase of a carrier.





KNOWLEDGE OF WAR GEOGRAPHY IS ESSENTIAL FOR THOSE SEEKING EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS IN INDIA'S DEFENCE SERVICES. HERE, TRAINEES LISTEN TO A LECTURE AT THE MAHARASHTRA MILITARISATION BOARD'S TRAINING CENTRE AT POONA

## TRAINING INDIAN YOUTHS FOR MILITARY CAREER

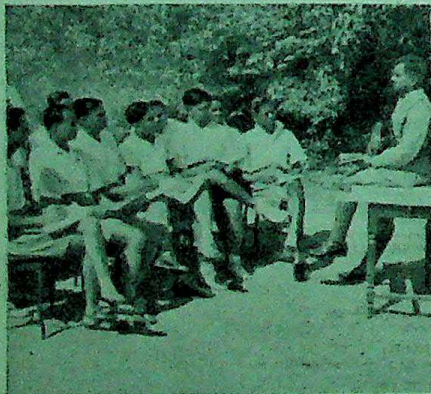
**H**undreds of young men from all over Maharashtra have already obtained Emergency Commissions in India's Defence Services, and are covering themselves with glory on land, sea and air. Many more are today under training at the Maharashtra Militarisation Board's Training Centre at Poona. The preparatory course includes intensive physical training, rifle drill, talks by military experts on Army administration, organisation and discipline, instruction in war geography and map-reading, etc.

Several brigadiers, colonels, majors and captains from the Indian Army and members of the National Defence Council have so far visited the Board's Training Centre and given instructive talks for prospective candidates.

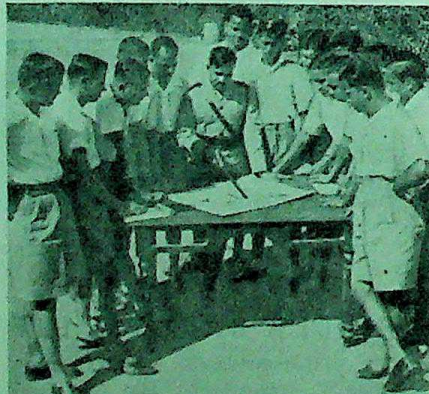
Founded over a year ago, the Maharashtra Militarisation Board is the only one of its kind in the Bombay province. Besides conducting the Training Centre at Poona, the Board has done much by way of province-wide propaganda and publicity in order to make the youth of Maharashtra military-minded.



TRAINEES HAVE TO UNDERGO A COURSE OF INTENSIVE PHYSICAL TRAINING



LISTENING TO A TALK ON ARMY DISCIPLINE



A LESSON ON MAP-READING



INSTRUCTION IN RIFLE DRILL

INDIAN INFORMATION, NOVEMBER 1, 1942





ONE OF INDIA'S FIGHTER PILOTS WHO, UNDETERRED BY BAD WEATHER, HAVE BEEN HAMMERING TARGETS IN BURMA AND ELSEWHERE

## R.A.F.'S OFFENSIVE SWEEPS OVER JAPANESE POSITIONS IN BURMA

Though the monsoon on some days in August made flying over the hills and valleys of Northern and Central Burma especially hazardous, Royal Air Force bombers and fighter-bombers maintained offensive reconnaissances of the Chindwin and Myittha valleys, keeping a close watch on Japanese troop concentrations and watching for possible infiltrations into the hills. Whenever the enemy was sighted our planes went in to attack.

In attacks on enemy communications British aircraft machinegunned and bombed the Mogaung-Myitkyina railway, and in a low-level sweep all stations on the railway between Naba and Myitkyina were also bombed and machinegunned. Kalewa and Kalemyo were raided several times during the month, and covered boats on the rivers came in for special attention. In one attack a direct hit on barracks at Kalemyo was reported.

### Watch On Akyab

The watch on the occupied port of Akyab was not relaxed, the town and steamers on the inland waterways again providing targets for the R.A.F. One of the features of the air activities over Burma in August was the successful combined attack on Myitkyina aerodrome by aircraft of the R.A.F. and the U.S.A.A.C. Other aerodromes such as Magwe from which the enemy are likely to operate against India were bombed. The destruction of a Japanese '97' single-seater fighter by a British fighter near the Chindwin was reported on August 20.

Food dropping to refugees in Burma has again been carried out on a considerable scale. The R.A.F. have dropped nearly 80 tons of food, and it is reported that up to August 21, China National Airways aircraft had delivered 200,000 lbs. and arrangements had been made for them to drop a further 100,000 lbs. Medical supplies and tarpaulins have also been dropped to beleaguered parties.

### POST-MONSOON CAMPAIGN

Opening of the R.A.F.'s post-monsoon bombing campaign against targets in Burma has been marked by completely successful operations, happily carried out with no great interference.

The Squadron Leader who led the attack of October 2 against the military quarters at Meiktila described it on his return as quite a "copy book flight." The aircraft reached their objective without interference of any kind, successfully plastered the target and all returned safely.

A Sergeant Observer, remarking on the barracks he had been attacking, said: "They are very good quarters—or rather they were!"

### "Terrific Bang"

Another Sergeant, who was refreshing himself with ice-cream on his return from Meiktila had previously taken part in the most successful raid of September 29 on Mandalay railway communications. He said that one of his bombs on that occasion

### RATES OF PAY OF I.A.F. OTHER RANKS

*Increases in rates of pay of other ranks in the Indian Air Force have been sanctioned by the Government of India.*

*Pay on entry to the I.A.F. was formerly Rs. 30 per month. This has now been doubled to Rs. 60 per month for recruits selected for training in skilled trades and Rs. 40 per month for unskilled. There are other increases all round according to rank and trade. These rates increase as a trainee passes his trade tests. The new rates have effect from July 1, 1942.*

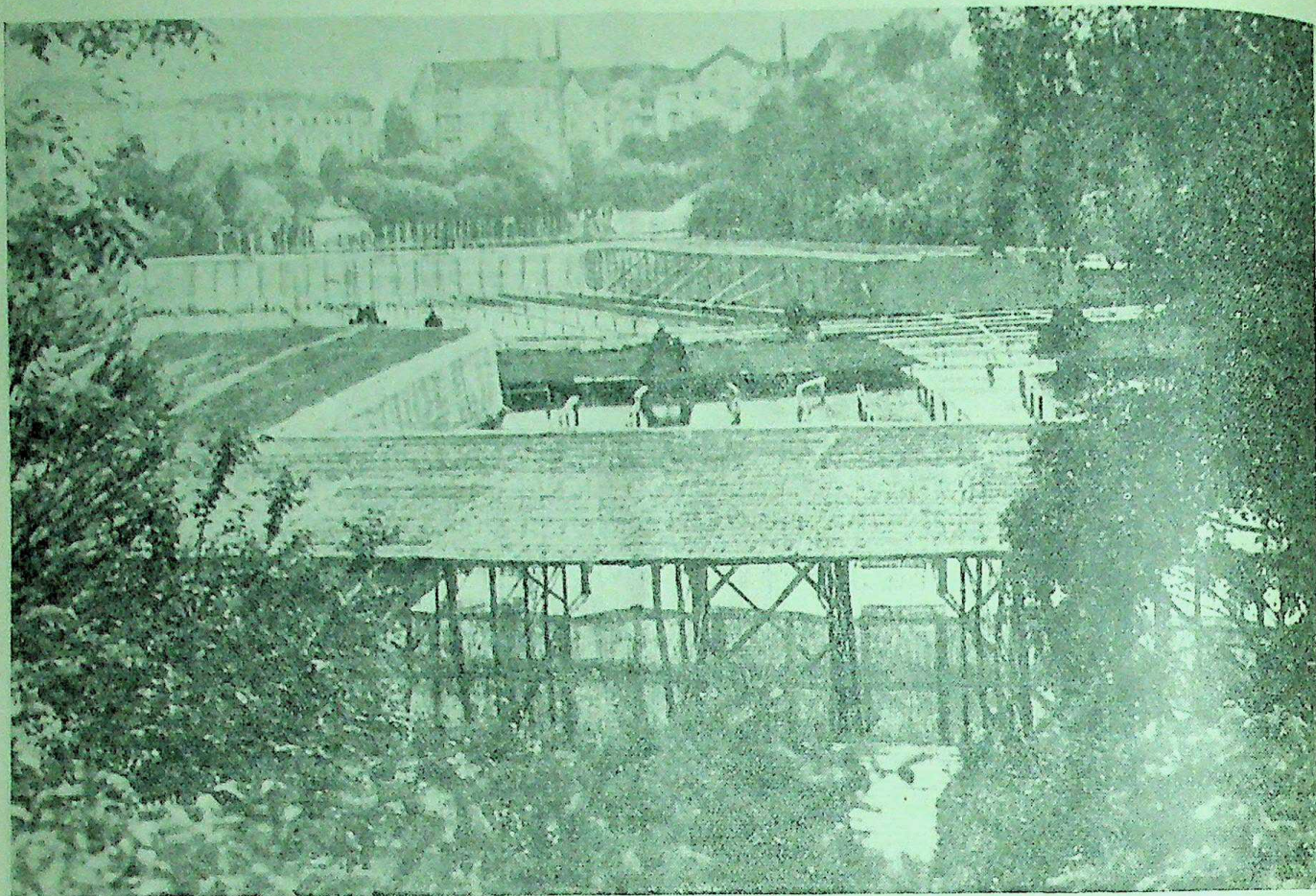
hit what must have been "an ammunition truck or a railway engine, as it went up with a terrific bang."

Others who had been on this operation vouched for the fact that not a bomb was wasted, everything falling on the target area and creating havoc amongst the rolling stock.

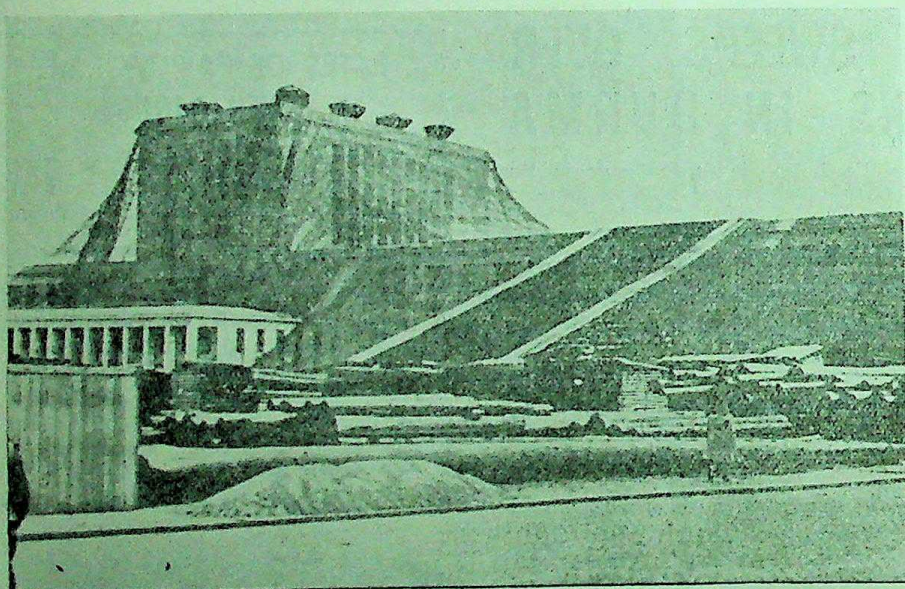
Crews returning from the attack on military quarters at Shwabo on October 2 had the same story to tell of complete success. As a Squadron Leader, who piloted a Blenheim over the target, was explaining that he himself had been too busy to observe results, his Sergeant Air Gunner came up and reported: "All direct hits, Sir."

A Sergeant Observer tacitly summed up the highly successful operations of the past days as "A piece of cake."

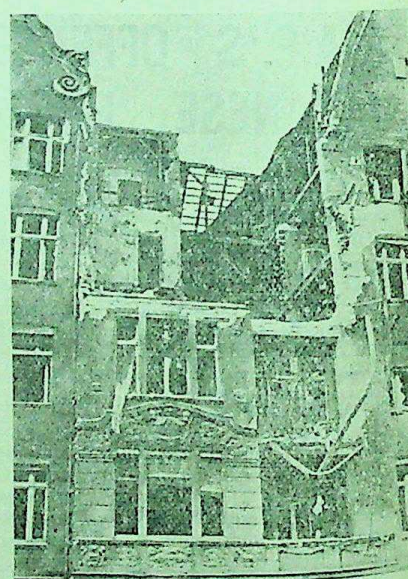




**Camouflage in Berlin**—The Lietzensee (Lietzen Lake) in Lietzensee Park now resembles a suburban landscape from the air, as coloured nets representing grassy lawns have been spread over the lake



A sidewalk on the East-West traffic artery in Berlin is covered for miles with wire network to which green 'foliage' has been attached



This is what an Allied bomb did to Meineke Strasse

## BERLIN CAN'T FOOL ALLIED AIR FORCES

The Royal Air Force is carrying the war into Nazi Germany, and by day and by night British bombers are relentlessly bombing German industrial centres, railways, docks and shipyards and other vital positions. These pictures, among the most unusual documents to come out of the war, show Berlin under camouflage—and Berlin after bombing. They prove that, even though most of the city's landmarks have been concealed, Allied bombs still find their targets.

Evidence of Nazi camouflage is furnished by the way the Lietzensee (Lietzen Lake) in Lietzensee Park, to quote one instance, has been concealed in order that it may not serve as a guide to Allied aviators. Wooden poles have been driven into the lake-bed, and coloured nets representing grassy lawns spread over them, while higher poles support bright red 'roof-tops'. From the air the lake resembles a suburban landscape.

INDIAN INFORMATION, NOVEMBER 1, 1942

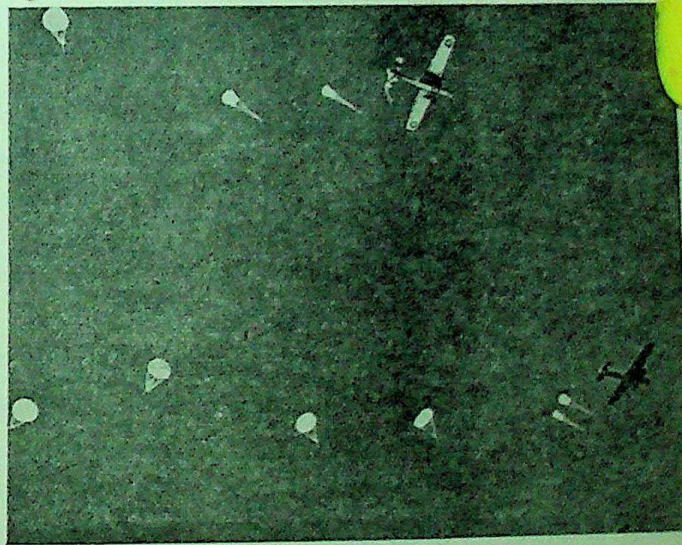




In the Middle East, the Royal Air Force co-operates with a volunteer branch of the Army called the Special Air Service trained like paratroops. Here, men of the Special Air Service enter an R.A.F. plane



SPECIAL AIR SERVICE MAN GATHERS UP HIS PARACHUTE AFTER LANDING



MEN OF THE SPECIAL AIR SERVICE FLOATING DOWN TO EARTH

# PARACHUTE EQUIPMENT MADE IN INDIA

Training of parachute troops in India is being greatly facilitated by the bringing into service recently of parachutes manufactured entirely at the Government of India factory established specially for this purpose.

A year ago the manufacture of parachutes in India had not been seriously considered and it was only at the beginning of this year that active steps were taken to set up a factory. Then Mr. Leslie Irvin, inventor of the well-known parachute used by the Royal Air Force, came out to India and personally supervised the factory organisation. Such rapid progress was made following his visit that the first parachute came from the factory for testing within a

few months. Today parachutes are being produced so quickly that there is an ample supply for immediate needs.

## Earned Experts' Approval

Before they are put into service the parachutes are subjected to the severest tests. For instance, a Gurkha parachutist weighs on the average 120 lbs., to which must be added the weight of his Tommy gun and other kit. But the parachutes are tested with weights which are three times those they will have to bear.

Under such tests it is impossible to "break down" the Indian-made parachutes which have earned the highest approval of

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]



# DEFENCE MEMBER'S BROADCAST TO INDIA'S ARMED FORCES

Here is the English version of a talk in Hindustani by the Hon'ble Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon, Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, broadcast from the Delhi Station of All India Radio on Tuesday, September 8, 1942 :—

It gives me great pleasure this evening to greet the Armed Forces of India. Many of you must already know that His Majesty's Government has been pursuing a deliberate policy of gradual transfer of the government of our country to the Indian people. With this aim in view, Sir Stafford Cripps, one of His Majesty's Ministers in England, visited India in April last with the aim of carrying this transfer a step further towards our joint goal, namely, the full government of India under a Government of our own devising. Unfortunately, our Indian political parties were unable to reach an agreement with him. Nevertheless, in accordance with the spirit of this effort made by Sir Stafford Cripps, H. E. the Viceroy has now expanded his Executive Council to 15 members, of whom 11 are Indians.

The outstanding feature of this development was the division of the portfolio responsible for the Armed Forces of India into two parts. Today, the War Portfolio is held by H. E. the Commander-in-Chief while the Defence Portfolio has been placed in my hands. In this capacity, as your first Defence Member, I speak to you tonight.

My one aim, while I am your Defence Member, is to serve you all to the best of my ability and power. The interests of every man in the Indian Navy, Army and Air Force are uppermost in my mind and particularly the interests of such of you as are serving the Motherland overseas.

## "A Noble Ideal"

We did not start this war. Germany and Italy started it in Europe, with their attack on Poland heralding an ambitious programme of world domination. Japan started it in Asia some years ago with her assault on the independence of China and has now carried on by attacking the United States and the British Commonwealth. Her greedy ambition is to enslave all the peoples of Asia.

We and our Allies are not fighting to conquer any countries or peoples. On the contrary we are fighting for a noble ideal, namely, the right of all nations, Asiatic and European, to live their own way, unmolested by outside interference.

We want to be left alone to live our lives in the ways we value. We want to adhere to our religions and to cherish our own sentiments. We want our children to be educated in our own way and to grow up free men and not to be forced to become the nuts and screws of a big Nazi machine which is being driven to destroy one people after another and which will not rest until the whole world is trodden under foot. God willing, that will not be, so long as we who are fighting together remain united in our purpose and resolve to crush those who have brought ruin and devastation to so many countries of Europe and of Asia. This is a fight to the finish, for the survival of good against evil, of tolerance against intolerance.

Many of you have been abroad for nearly three years with little respite, fighting most of the time. We here, at home, know

what your long absence from your families must mean to you but we, and they, are deeply grateful. Your courage and experience have provided a mighty bulwark in the defence of India and have been an inspiration to the hundreds of thousands of your fellow-countrymen who are steadily building up a great and well-equipped army behind you.

## "Our Bounden Duty"

We owe a responsibility, not only to the peoples of India, but also to our Allies, the United Nations, who along with us are fighting shoulder to shoulder for the thing we all value most—our freedom. Party and other internal differences have disappeared in all countries which are fighting against the Germans and the Japanese. All questions of internal administration and government have been pushed into the background by one great danger, the danger to liberty. If the Americans, if the Russians, if the Chinese, if the British, in their part of the world can forget all their internal differences, it is our bounden duty to do

the same. It is a matter of great regret that there is not the unity of purpose among us which is essential for the fulfilment of our political ambitions. But I have no doubt in my mind that the day is not far off when we, the people of India, will rise above our internal differences and take our rightful place in the great comity of world nations.

## PARACHUTE MANUFACTURE

[CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

experts whose experience extends over 20 years.

Indian pure silk is ready to hand for the making of the canopies and steps are being taken for the extended cultivation of mulberry to secure increased silk production.

The making of parachutes is yet one more war-time enterprise in which India is becoming independent of supplies from Britain.

India, too, is making much of the equipment of paratroops, including arms containers, valises in which arms and ammunition are packed, folding operating tables and folding stretchers and containers used for food dropping.

# THE NATIONAL DEFENCE COUNCIL

The sixth session of the National Defence Council opened at the Viceroy's House, New Delhi, on September 7, 1942. His Excellency the Viceroy presided. A statement on the Royal Indian Navy was made by the Flag Officer Commanding. The Adjutant General reviewed the recruitment position since his last statement to the Council. While noting the steady upward trend maintained from month to month in the recruitment figures of the last twelve months, attention was also drawn to the leeway which still required to be made up in clerical and certain technical categories, particularly the medical services. The Council discussed at some length ways and means of improving the position in these respects.

In the afternoon the supply position in its military aspects was reviewed by the Master General of Ordnance. The last subject to be taken up was the question of food production with special reference to the recent proceedings of the Central Advisory Food Council. The Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh, Member, Education, Health and Lands, made a statement and in the discussion which followed a number of issues relating to price control were raised.

## Second Day's Proceedings

The Council met again the following day at Viceroy's House. His Excellency the Viceroy presided. The Hon'ble the Home Member reviewed in detail the character and effect of the disturbances which occurred in the country following the decision of the Congress to launch a civil disobedience movement, the measures taken to suppress them and the present position. In the discussion which followed stress was laid on the clear duty of the Government to put down with the utmost possible expedition all attempts to foment disorder. In the afternoon a statement was made by the Hon'ble Sir Edward Benthall on War Transport. Certain subjects relating to the Labour Department including particularly, the progress made in Air Raid Precautions in factories were

then discussed in the light of a statement made by the Hon'ble Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.

## War Situation

The Council met again on September 9 at the Viceroy's House. His Excellency the Viceroy presided. The Council heard from His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief an account of the development of the general war situation since the last session. The progress in civil defence preparations in the country was reviewed in the light of a statement by the Hon'ble Sir J. P. Srivastava. Other subjects discussed included the price control position in the light of a statement made by the Hon'ble Mr. N. R. Sarker, the attitude of labour and labour organisations generally with reference to the present political situation in the country and the organisation of war publicity.

The session then concluded.

## States' Representatives

At this session of the National Defence Council the representatives of the Indian States were, in addition to the President of the Executive Council of the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam, Their Highnesses the Maharao of Cutch, the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur, the Raja of Faridkot, the Maharaja of Jaipur, the Raja of Mandi and the Maharaja of Tripura.

## AWARDS FOR A.R.P. WORK IN DELHI

It is understood that the Chief Commissioner, Delhi Province, has under consideration a scheme for distributing awards for valuable services rendered in connection with Air Raid Precautions and Civil Defence measures in Delhi.

The scheme includes awarding between five and ten small jagirs, during the current financial year, for exceptional service. Other awards may include presentation guns, watches, walking-sticks, etc., accompanied by certificates.

INDIAN INFORMATION, NOVEMBER 1, 1942



# SIR REGINALD MAXWELL ON DAMAGE CAUSED BY RECENT DISTURBANCES

**A**t the sitting of the Central Legislative Assembly on September 15, 1942, the Hon'ble Sir Reginald Maxwell, Home Member, moving that the House take into consideration the very grave situation that has arisen in the country since the passing of the All-India Congress Committee's resolution of August 8, dwelt on the extent of the damage caused and the extreme seriousness at one time of the position in the areas most affected.

He said: "I must explain that our knowledge is not yet complete. The disturbances are very recent; they are not yet at an end, and at any rate in the areas most affected, the Provincial Governments and their officers are still closely engaged in restoring or preserving order and taking precautions against fresh acts of violence. It will not be until some time after the situation is cleared up that full information of what has happened in each Province can be collected together."

After giving an outline of the events that immediately followed the arrests of the Congress leaders, Sir Reginald went on, "What is not so generally known or appreciated is the extent of the damage caused and the extreme seriousness at one time of the position in the whole of Bihar (except its most southern districts) and in the eastern part of the United Provinces.

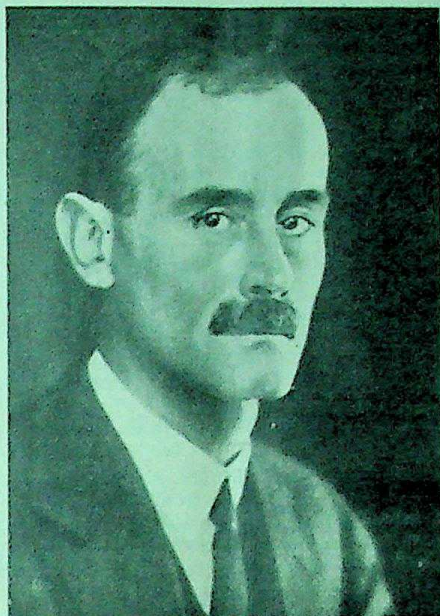
## Brutal Atrocities

"In these areas the trouble soon spread from the big towns to the outlying areas; thousands of rioters gave themselves up to an orgy of destruction of communications and other Government property; whole districts with their small defending forces of Government officials and police were isolated for days on end; there were brutal atrocities perpetrated by the mob and many deeds of heroism where small parties of police did their best to defend outlying stations. A very large part of the railway systems in this area was put out of action; and it is no exaggeration to say that for a considerable period Bengal was almost completely cut off from Northern India, while communications with Madras were interrupted by the damage done to the railways in that Presidency.

"Outside the Railway and Posts and Telegraphs Departments", he continued, "the violence of the mob was largely directed against Government buildings. Nor did municipal or private property escape. We have reports of the entirely wicked and wanton destruction of a Tuberculosis clinic with its irreplaceable equipment, of the house of a private medical practitioner with all his valuable stock of medicines, of a Roman Catholic Church, of electric light installations and of attacks on A.R.P. buildings and even on schools. There have been other private persons also who have lost all they possessed.

"Taking into account the loss of earnings on the railways affected and in the Posts and Telegraphs Department, which must be very serious, I should say that the total damage must be well over a crore of rupees."

Sir Reginald added "There are one or two special aspects of these disturbances



SIR REGINALD MAXWELL

to which I wish to draw the attention of the House. The attacks on railways and other communications started almost simultaneously in widely separated parts of India. That in itself is a significant fact. It becomes more so when one reflects that much of the damage caused must have required special implements which could not have been produced at a moment's notice—wire-cutters to cut telegraph wires, spanners to remove fishplates from railway lines and so on. An even more significant fact, of which we have considerable evidence, is the technical knowledge displayed by the saboteurs.

"Facts of this kind are inconsistent with the theory that these disturbances are spontaneous outbursts arising out of the arrests of Congress leaders. Another point equally inconsistent with that theory is the military significance of the areas and objectives selected for special attention. The disturbances have occurred mainly in areas which have strategic importance and the objects of attack have largely been the communications which would be essential for the defence of the country in the event of hostile attack.

"In the area of worst disorder—that is to say Bihar—any dislocation of railways would seriously affect troop movements and prevent the sending of reinforcements from northern India to the area most exposed to enemy invasion. Moreover, this is the centre of India's coal industry and inability to despatch coal supplied from this centre would paralyse transport and industry throughout the country as soon as the existing reserves had been consumed.

"Both these points supply evidence of previous organisation having the most sinister possible motives. We have been fortunate on this occasion in being free to give attention to this movement at a time when there was little fear of the development

of an enemy attack, with which the movement had possibly been planned to synchronise. But we might not be equally fortunate another time and I need hardly point out that such an outbreak would be a direct invitation to the Japanese to attack India if they were in a position to do so.

## Cases Of Looting

"On the other hand, the ordinary characteristics of spontaneous disturbances have been almost entirely absent. The first object of a riotous mob is generally loot. There have, of course, been cases of looting, but on the whole this form of activity has been far less common than might have been expected. Similarly, hartals have not been observed to the extent that seemed likely and the special machinery which Government had devised to deal with such demonstrations has not had to be largely used.

"The selective nature of the acts of sabotage is thrown into relief by the significant fact that there has been little or no sabotage of industrial plant or machinery. It is true that cessation of work, where it has occurred under political pressure, has interfered to some extent with war production. But what is the explanation of the absence of industrial sabotage except perhaps that the owners, while ready enough in some cases to close down and accept some temporary diminution of their earnings, are determined not to be deprived of the plant and machinery on which their comfortable war profits depend?"

## Trying Ordeal

Turning to the measures taken by the Government, first in the hope of preventing the development of a mass movement and subsequently in order to control and suppress the disturbances, Sir Reginald said, "It was clear from the outset that the development of any movement along the lines envisaged by the Congress leaders must directly interfere with the efficient prosecution of the war. Government thus had no hesitation in using to the full the powers provided by the Defence of India Rules supplemented by certain additional powers.

"The fullest executive use was naturally made of the police throughout the disturbed areas. They have been through an extremely trying ordeal and have been compelled on many occasions to open fire on riotous mobs and gangs of saboteurs or often in defence of their lives.

"A very large number of policemen have been injured, while 31 are reported so far to have been killed. These include a number of brutal murders, in some cases of unarmed policemen. In addition to the police there was a very wide use of troops, British and Indian, in aid of the civil power. In no less than 60 places, troops were called out, while on a number of occasions they stood by.

"These forces have not been used to open fire on crowds engaged in peaceful or legitimate political demonstrations. Had that been the case the word 'repression' that we so often hear might have had some application. But in disorders of the kind that have occurred, the mobs or gangs of persons engaged in sabotage were in every case the aggressors.



# CENTRAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

"The police, or the troops where they were employed in aid of the civil government, were carrying out no more than their legal duties and obligations in using force for the defence of person and property and for the prevention of violent rebellion intended to overthrow the Government which is responsible for the safety of all. It is for this purpose that armed forces are maintained by the State; and those who use force must expect to be met by force.

"It has already been made clear in the Government communique of August 8 that the purpose of Government is preventive rather than punitive and this is the principle that has governed and will govern our action. Complaints of the use of excessive force have no real meaning in situations such as those with which the police have had to deal. It cannot be expected of a small band of police confronted by a threatening mob that they should make mathematical calculations of the precise amount of force necessary to disperse it. We have to think of men doing their duty in the face of daily and even hourly danger to their lives, men charged with responsibility for the protection of vital communications.

## Effective Action

"Hesitation at these moments would mean that they were overwhelmed or that the mob would attain its object. Their first concern is to take effective action and it is their duty to do so.

"Cases will no doubt be quoted in which it is alleged that force was used with no such provocation. I would ask Hon'ble Members to be sure that such stories are well verified before they give currency to them. If, however, any such act has occurred anywhere it is a breach of discipline with which the Provincial Governments and the officers in command of their forces are as much concerned as any member of the public. I would, therefore, deprecate any sweeping allegations as regards the conduct of the police at a time when the whole country owes so much to their courage and steadfastness.

"The proper course in such cases will be to bring the allegations, if they are well authenticated, to the notice of the authorities immediately responsible for the discipline of their forces, and it can be assumed that, if satisfied, they will do what is proper. But it is putting an entirely wrong perspective on the matter to lavish sympathy on those who have brought on themselves the consequences of their own aggression and to attempt to put the police or other Government forces on their defence whenever they have found it necessary in the circumstances of the emergency to use force in the execution of their duty.

"One of the high-lights of the situation has been the manner in which not only the police, on whom the deadliest attacks usually fell, but all ranks of Government servants—even the humblest—have in the country as a whole stood firm and done their duty in face of all attempts to subvert or terrorise them. I have heard of fine work, too, done by the Civic Guards and A.R.P. services.

"We shall not forget those who have given their lives in the execution of their duty and we may well claim that the loyalty of all classes of Government servants has proved their faith in the administration that they have served so well.

"Solid and stable public services are a great bulwark against anarchy. We must see that their confidence is not shaken by unworthy attacks on them.

"Another source of encouragement has been the steadiness of the country as a whole notwithstanding the inconvenience and loss caused to the general population by these widespread disturbances.

"Experience in Bombay, Cawnpore, and elsewhere has shown that labour, if left alone, is not anxious to give trouble. Where strikes have occurred—and there are several important areas such as Ahmedabad in which labour is still out—they have been the direct result of political influences backed, we suspect, by ample funds. Nor has the population at large shown any general inclination to take part in the movement.

"The Muslim community and the Scheduled Castes, I am glad to say, have as a whole stood entirely aloof.

## False Stories

"Large areas of the country, again, have been quite free from any sort of disturbance. Certain areas there have been—and I do not minimise their extent or importance—where for a time hooliganism has become rampant and mob rule prevailed. But speaking generally I think it can be said that the disorders and acts of sabotage have been mainly of a local and sporadic character carried out by organised parties with the assistance, no doubt, of the local hooligan element and such others of the more ignorant population as could be excited by false stories and promises.

"What I would emphasise is that this movement cannot in any true sense be described as a people's movement. The whole thing is engineered and not spontaneous. There are already encouraging signs of a revulsion of public opinion against the madness of the past weeks and cases have come to notice in which the villagers themselves have intervened to prevent damage to public property. But until the malign influences that have been at work have been fully counteracted, the country cannot feel safe from further attempts to disturb the life of the people."

Sir Reginald asked, "Who then is responsible for these disorders? What lies behind them? Where the whole life of the country has been so greatly disturbed, where its defence in war has so far been prejudiced it is important that the country should form a clear opinion on this subject.

"Attempts have been made and will no doubt continue to be made to exonerate the Congress leaders or to represent that recent events are not the outcome of the mass movement sanctioned by the All-India Congress Committee at Bombay. The terms of the resolution which they then passed are such that they can hardly disclaim responsibility for any events that followed it. But apart from that it is impossible to interpret the utterances of the Congress leaders themselves except on the assumption that they knew and approved of what was likely to occur."

## Madras Government Communique

After referring to the communique of the Madras Government which published the instructions issued by the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee, the Home Member said, "It may be said that there is no proof that these bulletins carry the authority of Congress or the Congress leaders, although they profess to do so. I have, however, elsewhere brought out the point that the

acts of sabotage that have occurred could not have been planned in a moment and show clear evidence of previous organisation. Whatever part the Congress leaders may have taken in the actual work of this organisation, it is impossible to believe for a moment in the light of their own utterances that they were ignorant of its existence or that their plans did not contemplate that it would be brought into play when they launched their mass movement. I am not at present prepared to say whence this organization drew its inspiration.

"It will be our business to find out more of what we do not yet know. But if any doubt remained as to the identity of Congress with these disturbances it could easily be removed by quoting the very numerous instances in which known Congressmen, particularly in Bihar, have been observed openly inciting mobs to violence and sabotage; while many others went underground immediately after the Bombay meetings and have remained there for reasons best known to themselves. On the basis of all the information at present available, therefore, we cannot absolve the Congress from responsibility for these very grave events.

## Government's Reply To Congress Challenge

"When the Congress threw down their challenge on August 8, the Government gave an immediate reply. 'To a challenge such as the present' they said in their communique, 'there can only be one answer.' They pointed out that on the Government of India 'lies the task of defending India, of maintaining India's capacity to wage war, of safeguarding India's interests, of holding the balance between the different sections of her people without fear or favour. That task the Government of India will discharge in face of the challenge now thrown down by the Congress Party.' Today, although many terrible things have happened, control has been established almost everywhere and the country as a whole is quiet; and although this suicidal movement is not yet finally quelled, we can feel some justifiable confidence in our power to deal with any situation that may yet arise.

"There are some who charge Government with overhastiness in taking action when they did. The answer is that had Government given opportunity for 3 or 4 weeks more of Congress propaganda of the kind that was then in progress, it is very doubtful if this rebellion could have been quelled without very much more destruction than has now taken place. What has happened is bad enough; but delay might have meant an appalling disaster for the whole people of this country.

"There are those, again, who say that repression is not the right remedy and that in order to restore peace, steps should be taken to release all those who have been endangering the country's defences and put them in a position to conduct the further war effort of India. That is, I think, the underlying significance of some of the amendments that have been tabled. Well, Sir, the position of this Government has been made clear in the communique to which I have already referred and there is little that I can add to it. One thing quite plain is that with an enemy at our gates and another enemy within them the prime duty of this Government is to undo the harm that has been done as soon as possible and to put this country in a state of defence against both.

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INDIAN INFORMATION, NOVEMBER 1, 1942





A GENERAL VIEW OF A SMALL SHELL FACTORY IN THE PUNJAB

## GRADY MISSION'S FINAL REPORT

### Measures To Step Up India's War Production

The final report of the American Technical Mission has now been submitted by its Chairman, Dr. Henry Christie Grady, to the Governments of India and of the United States of America.

The report contains much factual data concerning the production in India of essential war materials and the recommendations of the Mission for expansion of such production. The two Governments are now engaged in studying the Mission's report and the manner in which its various recommendations may be implemented.

The function of the Mission was to investigate the industrial resources of India and to recommend ways and means by which these resources could be developed to augment production for war purposes. The work of the Mission, therefore, was directly related to the common war effort of the United Nations and was not connected with post-war industrial and commercial problems of India.

The report of the Mission contains a survey of the principal industries, of India's ancillary war effort and its principal industrial requirements yearly for each of these.

The Mission has made recommendations suggesting action by either Government of India or Government of the U.S.A. In those instances in which additional output was shown to be required, the Mission has recommended the erection of new plant or the installation of additional machinery in existing plant.

It has also suggested the re-arrangement of existing machinery in order that the maximum efficiency in production might be attained.

Congestion at certain Indian ports received the attention of the Mission which has made various recommendations designed to expedite loading, unloading, and the

repair of ships. In addition, it has called attention to the overburdened condition of railways and has suggested measures for its alleviation.

Vigorous steps have already been taken by the Government of India to implement some of the recommendations contained in the preliminary report of the Mission; and in this programme it is being assisted by equipment and material from the United States of America and the United Kingdom.

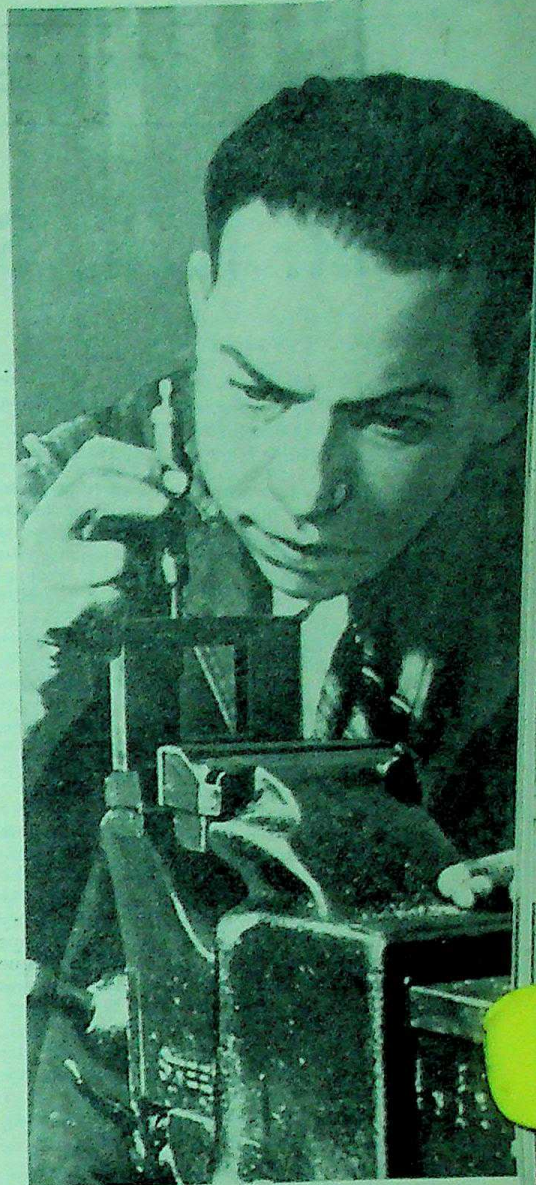
#### U. S. Technicians

With the full approval of the Government of India, the Mission recommended that a number of production engineers and technicians be sent from the U.S.A. to advise and assist in increasing industrial production in India. Steps have already been taken to secure the services of these experts, and a number of them will soon be leaving to undertake their new and important assignments.

The Governments of India and of the United States of America have been impressed with the comprehensive character of the Mission's report. Its recommendations appear to be both constructive and timely. The Governments concerned will determine the extent to which the Mission's programme is to be implemented and will seek promptly to execute their decision.

#### TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTRES

The total number of seats now provided under the Technical Training Scheme of the Government of India is 41,407. On July 31, this year, 31,400 men were actually under training, and up to the same date 15,000 trainees had passed out from training centres into the technical branches of the Services and war factories. The total number trained or under training on July 31 was, therefore, 46,400.



A. P. Barre, an Anglo-Indian trainee from Madras, receiving his training in machine tool fitting in England under the Bevin Scheme

There are at present 353 training centres, of which 49 with a capacity of 5,403 seats are in Indian States. The Punjab has so far produced the largest number of trained men, the number exceeding 4,000, while Madras takes second place with 2,549, the United Provinces third place with 1,576, and Bengal fourth place with 1,262. In the case of the Indian States, Mysore leads with 313 and is followed by Travancore with 259 and Hyderabad with 200. Cochin comes fourth with 151.

#### ALUMINIUM FOR WAR INDUSTRIES

The importance of aluminium in various munitions manufactures and aircraft is reflected in certain amendments to the Aluminium Control Order which were recently published in a Government of India Gazette.

This Order brings within the scope of control all aluminium, including aluminium scrap used in manufacture, and calls upon all manufacturers, who use aluminium in any manufacturing process, to register themselves.

The control makes it possible to order discontinuance of production of all unessential aluminium goods, including hollow ware, and provide for the increasing availability of aluminium for essential purposes.



# COMMERCE-INDUSTRY-FINANCE

## MR. N. R. SARKER ON PRICE CONTROL

The Hon'ble Mr. N. R. Sarker, Commerce Member, Government of India, declaring open the Sixth Price Control Conference at New Delhi on September 7, 1942, said :

I extend to you all a hearty welcome both on my behalf and on behalf of the Government of India. I thank you for the trouble you have taken in attending this Conference in the difficult days through which we are passing. I am, indeed, indebted to my predecessor, Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, for having initiated this machinery by which the representatives of the Provincial and State Governments can come together and evolve a common line of policy with regard to supply and price control in consultation with the Government of India.

I need hardly say that the initiative, co-operation and assistance of the Provincial and State Governments are essential to the success of price control measures in this country. The problems with which the Conference is faced today call for very serious and earnest consideration and I hope that you will extend to me the same enthusiastic co-operation and help as you have given to my predecessor in the past. I, on my own part, can assure you that, in all your endeavours to establish the present system of price control on a more sound and scientific basis, the services of my department and my own are entirely at your disposal.

This is for the sixth time that we have come together to examine the questions relating to the prices of essential commodities and to explore the ways and means of making our existing administration more effective. Our experience of the price control measures hitherto in operation has revealed a number of difficulties, both psychological and administrative, and these must engage our serious attention in determining what our future line of action should be.

### Reasons For Increased Demand

Before we proceed to the regular agenda, I think it will be helpful if I briefly indicate the nature of the problem with which we are confronted today and the lines on which it could be tackled. The main task before us is to adjust our total supplies of foodstuffs and other essential commodities to the ever-increasing demand and to ensure their equitable distribution as between different regions. Broadly, the chief factors which are responsible for the increased demand over and above our normal consumption can be indicated as follows :—

- Large-scale purchases are made on behalf of the Army for the increasing requirements of our Defence Forces. We have also to meet certain demands in respect of our neighbouring countries like Ceylon whose stability is vital to the defence of this country.
- In a country where incomes are proverbially low, increase in employment as a result of the manifold activities in connection with the war results in increase



MR. N. R. SARKER

in money incomes and to a certain extent that means an increase in demand for foodstuffs and other essential supplies.

- Provincial and State Governments have to build up strategic reserves as a safeguard against emergency conditions.
- In the absence of control over the entire available supplies of foodstuffs and their distribution by the State, consumers and producers tend to hoard large stocks either as a result of their psychological reaction to the uncertainties of the war condition or in the hope of getting a higher price in future. Although such stocks create difficulties in the immediate present and raise prices, they are like 'hidden reserves' which will be ultimately available for the community. The demand for foodstuffs, therefore, tends to increase rapidly relatively to supply, and prices tend to rise imposing severe hardship on the community.

### Increased Production Necessary

Obviously, the first and foremost remedy is to organise a vigorous drive to increase production with a view to maintaining adequate supplies of food and other essentials both for the requirements of the Army and civilian population. I am happy to say that at my instance the Government of India, in co-operation with the Provincial Governments, initiated a vigorous campaign to grow more food and fodder crops in April, 1942, and my successor, the Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh, is taking energetic measures, in consultation with Provincial and State authorities, to make the campaign all the more effective so far as the forthcoming *rabi* crops are concerned. The anticipated increase in area under foodcrops of nearly one crore of acres in 1942-43 is made possible by replacing such crops as short-staple cotton, raw jute, etc., the export

demand for which has been considerably reduced—bringing culturable waste land lying idle under plough and also increasing the productivity of land by greater use of manures and by giving other concessions to the cultivators such as concessional irrigation rates, supply of seeds and *takavi* loans on a larger scale.

I may further point out that the production of vegetables for supplementing our food resources was also given an impetus as a part of the "Grow More Food" campaign and the Central Food Advisory Council which met recently has recommended to the Provincial and State Governments to organize a planned drive to increase vegetable production on all available spare strips of land in the vicinity of urban areas. I am aware that there is a great leeway to make up in the task of maximizing the total food and vegetables production within the country, but I am confident that with the enthusiastic help and co-operation of Provincial and State Governments it would not be difficult to tackle the problem.

### Price Control Essential

From the viewpoint of the average consumer the policy of the Government in connection with the food supplies is important in so far as he is able or not to secure adequate quantities of the commodity at reasonable prices in the market. The distribution of foodstuffs is, therefore, as vital a part of the food policy as the production. I am fully conscious of the deficiencies in our present scheme of control which appear to have led to an insistent demand on behalf of certain sections of the community that removal of price control alone will remedy the situation and ensure better distribution of the food supplies within the country. In an agricultural country like India, where the line between producer and consumer is very difficult to draw, price control of foodgrains is indeed faced with certain inherent difficulties. And in any case, as I shall presently explain, a price control scheme cannot be a hundred per cent success. Its merit has to be judged from both positive and negative standpoints. It is one thing to say that price control in India has been deficient and it is quite another to argue from this premise that we should give up this business of price control in despair. I have given very anxious thought to this aspect of the problem and I feel convinced that price control is essential and desirable under the present circumstances.

### War Conditions And Price Structure

Under normal conditions, a freely working price mechanism performs the function of distributing the available supplies as between different regions or different areas. During war, however, the price mechanism does not function effectively. The increase in demand relatively to supply for foodstuffs as a result of the various factors which I have mentioned and particularly the heavy purchases on behalf of the Defence Forces always act as a bullish factor which tends to keep the prices at a level higher than that which is justified by the purely statistical demand-and-supply position. But apart from this, the transport system which is vital to the easy movement of



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

foodstuffs and other commodities as between different parts of the country is heavily booked for the Army. The prevailing political situation also has reacted unfavourably on the psychology of producers and stockists. As a consequence prices in one area lose their normal relationship with those prevailing in other areas, and the State has to step in to control the prices of essential foodstuffs.

Our experience of conditions during the last war, as also in the recent past, leaves no room for doubt that in the absence of control, prices of foodstuffs would soar up, imposing severe hardship not only on industrial workers and middle classes in urban areas but also on the rural population in areas where foodstuffs are in short supply. We can hardly afford to view with equanimity the possibility of an inordinate rise in the cost of living of urban classes, particularly of industrial workers and the grave repercussions it is likely to produce on the progress of the war effort. I feel that we must, of necessity, make determined efforts to check any such tendency; and my personal view is that price control must be maintained and our measures, however imperfect, must be further intensified.

## Supply And Distribution

While recognizing the necessity of controlling prices, I am not unmindful of the deficiencies in our present scheme and administration of price control. It should be remembered that we have moved from a position when in the interests of the cultivator, who had passed through a long period of depression before the war, price control was thought to be undesirable, to a position where price control is regarded as essential. During this period we have adjusted our price control measures according to the needs and circumstances from time to time.

It has, however, been found from experience, particularly of Great Britain, both in the last war and in the present war, that mere fixation of maximum prices cannot ensure that the consumer will in practice get the commodities at the controlled rates. So long as the private trader controls supplies and can directly contact the consumer, there is always an incentive for him to charge a price higher than the legal maximum. If a number of sellers are in the field, they will try to secure supplies from the producer by giving him a price higher than the legal maximum and recoup themselves by charging a proportionately increased price to the consumer. This leads to 'black market' at the producing end and the existence of more than one price which inevitably brings in hoarding by the producer in anticipation of a further increase in price. It is clear, therefore, that so long as the controlling authority does not control the supply of commodities and their distribution and is not in a position to sell in the market large quantities through recognized trade agencies at the controlled rates, the legal maximum cannot be made effective over a large range of the market. Control over supplies and distribution are, therefore, essential and vital corollaries to effective price control.

In Great Britain, for instance, the Ministry of Food comes into possession of all available supplies and sells them to the consumer whose demand is rationed with the result that price control policy has

achieved a fair measure of success in that country. Although in a vast country like India rationing is not a practical proposition, yet in this country as elsewhere the success of price control must largely depend on an organised scheme of controlled supply and distribution. Price control also has got to be comprehensive so that the substitution of one uncontrolled commodity for the controlled commodity does not defeat its purpose.

If the price control in other countries is to be a guide, then the logic of events will lead us to the extension of control in some form or the other over supplies and distribution of the commodities in question. These are some of the matters which we have to discuss at the present conference and I am sure that you will give all the careful examination that these deserve.

## Money Income And Price Level

The most significant feature of the economic situation during the war in every country is a rapid increase in the money incomes of the people as a result of increase in employment arising out of the war and the consequent pressure on the available supplies of food and other commodities. It is an economic truism that the demand for foodstuffs is constant in the sense that doubling of one's money income cannot double the quantities of rice or wheat that he needs or consumes. In a country like India where incomes are proverbially low, it is feasible that increase in money incomes should mean to a certain extent an increase in the demand for foodstuffs.

While tackling the problem of food production and distribution, therefore, we cannot altogether ignore the pressure of the increase in currency and the money incomes on the general level of prices, and corresponding measures must, therefore, be taken to drain a larger portion of the increased money incomes towards war expenditure and thus minimize the total civilian expenditure on the diminishing supply of goods and services. The important fact which I would like to emphasize in this connection is that in the face of diminishing supply of

civilian goods increased expenditure by consumers is merely offset by a further rise in their prices.

I would, therefore, appeal to the public to save an increasing proportion of their money incomes by avoiding every kind of waste of food, practising severe economy in the use of essential goods like cloth which are in short supply, postponing their purchases as far as possible, and utilizing such savings after the return of peace when increased flow of goods for civilian consumption would be available.

## Co-ordinated Action Needed

Another important factor which I mentioned as being responsible for the increase in demand for foodstuffs is the need, on the part of Provincial Governments, to build up strategic reserves. The Provincial Government's anxiety to conserve the food resources of their respective provinces, due partly to the conditions created by the war and partly perhaps to the absence of accurate information of the statistical position, has not facilitated the release of even whatever supply is available in the producing areas. I fully appreciate that the Provincial Governments should be anxious to safeguard the interests of the population of their own province.

It is, however, impossible to ignore the fundamental economic unity of this country and the mutual interdependence of the Provinces for the satisfaction of their own needs and requirements. Unless co-ordinated action is taken by the Provincial Governments and States in tackling the problem of food supplies and other essential requirements, I greatly fear that unilateral action would impose serious hardship on people in different areas. I, therefore, make an earnest appeal to the Provincial and State Governments to bear in mind this vital fact of interdependence of the different areas of the country on one another and to give their fullest possible co-operation to the Government of India in devising a scheme which will take into account and do justice to the claims of each area in the country. I do not underestimate the difficulties which the Provincial Governments



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have to face. Indeed, having regard to the limitations under which they have to work I must say that they are now giving more earnest attention to the problem.

It is well to recognise that price control measures are not contemplated to produce hundred per cent equity, and judged by peace-time standards, these are bound to be wanting in many respects. From the very nature of the case they will be rather rough-and-ready devices always to be judged by their net benefits to the society and the evils which would otherwise follow in the absence of such measures. This, I think, should guide our entire approach to the price control problem.

## Maximum Price For Wheat

I would like, in this connection, to clarify the position regarding the fixation of the maximum price for wheat. The present price has been fixed at Rs. 5 per maund at Lyallpur and Hapur. This has been regarded as inadequate in some quarters. But I may point out that it represents an increase of more than 100 per cent over the pre-war price of Rs. 2-5-6. The average price during the five pre-war years was only Rs. 2-8-0, and even if we go still further back, we find that the average harvest price during 1919-20 to 1928-29 which includes the boom period was Rs. 4-11-0 and that during 1930-31 to 1939-40 was Rs. 2-4-0. The main objections which are raised to the control of wheat prices appear to be two-fold :—

- (i) It is suggested that it is unfair to control the prices of what the agriculturist produces while the prices of products he consumes, with the exception of sugar, remain uncontrolled.
- (ii) Adequate attention is not paid to the increase in the cultivator's cost of living and production.

I am fully aware that the agriculturist had passed through a period of acute depression for over a decade before the war and that the prices of agricultural commodities should not be controlled at an uneconomic level. I do not, however, feel that it could be seriously suggested that Rs. 5 per maund for wheat is an unremunerative price. The suggestion that we have allowed unchecked profiteering on the part of industrialists and have thus discriminated between industry and agriculture is also not quite justified. The prices of the output of most industries catering for war requirements are now largely controlled.

Besides, the profits of industry are subject to a heavy Income-tax and an Excess Profits Tax, while the war has made little difference to the land revenue rent and cess which the agriculturist has to pay. I am aware that the cultivator is affected by the rise in the prices of non-food articles which have gone up in some cases by more than 100 per cent but we cannot deduce from this that either his cost of production or his cost of living has gone up by a similar percentage, because a considerable part of his expenditure is made up of fixed items like interest charges and revenue.

The objective of our policy, in my view, is that no section of the community should benefit at the expense of others. Viewed in this light, the control of wheat

price at Rs. 5 a maund cannot be regarded as unfair to the cultivator. Our aim in price fixing has been to strike a compromise between the imperative necessity of increasing food production by allowing prices to rise up to a reasonable level, and the equally important task of safeguarding the interests of the consumer. Thus certain prices may have to be fixed low enough to permit the poorest consumer to buy adequate supplies of the proper foods but high enough to enable the producers of marginal efficiency to contribute to the supply required; or, again, high enough to force consumers to use substitutes more easily available in war time. Price control is, thus, a synthesis of different ideals. The synthesis is necessary because of its basic aim, viz., to achieve the maximum social benefit without sacrificing any vital interest.

*"It is clear that so long as the controlling authority does not control the supply of commodities and their distribution and is not in a position to sell in the market large quantities through recognised trade agencies at the controlled rates, the legal maximum cannot be made effective*

The proposed modifications in our scheme of price control would, to a certain extent, eliminate the black market. But the problem of black markets has been intriguing price control measures not only in India but also in other countries including Great Britain and Australia where very rigorous systems are in operation. Quite recently in England even the help of Scotland Yard has had to be requisitioned for combating this menace, and the black market in that country has come to be branded as the traitor's market, which shows the intensity of public feeling against it. Indeed, Government attitude in England in respect of such markets has now undergone a conspicuous change from the defensive to the offensive.

In Australia likewise the punitive measures against black markets bear evidence of progressive stiffening. In India also the necessity is being increasingly felt for more drastic measures against profiteering in every form. But while Government will certainly do what they must, I strongly feel that the commercial community in India, more than anywhere else, owe a special responsibility to the community in the matter for stamping out the evil. The most important consideration why this responsibility should be shared by them is that the proposed price control scheme does not seek to eliminate the existing trade channels, but they are made an integral part of the scheme.

While this problem will no doubt engage your earnest attention I may inform you that I shall soon meet representatives of the commercial community at a separate conference where I shall have the opportunity of placing these issues before them and of making an earnest appeal to them to assist Government in the matter and

discharge the responsibility which they owe to society and the country by virtue of the position of influence held by them in our present economic and social structure.

## Price Control At All Stages

I hope I have indicated the lines on which the present price control system needs to be revised and strengthened with a view to ensure adequate supplies to the consumers at control rates. Time has come when control must cover not only the prices but also the supply and distribution of the controlled commodities. It is also essential to extend such pattern of control over competitive food grains so that the producer and the seller have no incentive to sell these in preference to the controlled commodities. Obviously, the smooth working of such a scheme is conditioned by the compilation of dependable statistical infor-

*over a large range of the market. Control over supplies and distribution are, therefore, essential and vital corollaries to effective price control."—Hon'ble Mr. N. R. Sarker in his opening address at the Sixth Price Control Conference at New Delhi on September 7.*

mation about the stocks and requirements of the various regions and the planned movement of foodstuffs from the surplus to the deficit areas.

Within the deficit areas, again, the local authorities will be confronted with problems relating to the inter-district movement of commodities and the correlation of local prices at different stages of retail marketing with prices prevailing at the sources of supply as well as those in the neighbouring areas. The price control scheme embraces all these stages, and its successful working must in any case, largely depend on efficient administration, and I strongly feel that in respect of all these aspects the success of the scheme will materially depend on the co-operation of the Provincial and State Governments. We also have to consider the desirability of controlling the prices of other essentials of life like kerosene, salt, etc., as these affect the cost of living of agriculturists and industrial workers.

## Appeal To All Interests

Before I conclude, I will make an earnest appeal to all the interests concerned. In an effective scheme to ensure food supplies for the nation and the army, everybody must play his own role. The Government has to keep an open mind and show willingness to adjust its policies according to the needs of the situation. The consumer has to remember that when there is no fear of absolute shortage in the country, every bag of wheat or rice that he hoards means a proportionate decrease in the flow of the commodity coming to the market. What, from his own view-point, is an act of individual prudence becomes from a collective view-point an anti-social act. The commercial community, whose co-operation



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and assistance are indispensable, has to reconcile itself to the necessity of a minimum degree of regulation and control and to come forward to play its part within that framework of control.

Given co-operation and help from all the sections which I have indicated above, it will be possible for us to tackle successfully the question of price control and of feeding the nation in war and the Army adequately, thus making our own contribution to the safeguarding of the Food Front. What is needed most at this moment is a widespread determined will to make price control work, despite all difficulties, imperfections and minor inequities. But we must have a programme strong enough and comprehensive enough to have some chance of success, else we shall not give ourselves a chance to develop the kind of morale which success requires.

## Conference Conclusions

The Conference also met the following day, the Hon'ble Mr. N. R. Sarker presiding, and reviewed the working of wheat and sugar controls and discussed various suggestions to improve the existing machinery for control of food grains.

Opinion was generally in favour of instituting some system of co-ordinated purchase of surplus wheat and other food grains to meet the requirements of the military and deficit areas.

Views were also exchanged on certain problems connected with the Standard Cloth Scheme and Yarn Control.

The Conference recommended that the prices and supplies control machinery at the centre should be further strengthened by the creation of a Civil Supplies Advisory Council and a Central Price and Supply Board. The former will consist mainly of the representatives of trade and industry and its functions will be to advise the Central Government in the Commerce Department on all matters connected with prices, supplies and distribution of commodities. The Chairman of the Council will be the Hon'ble the Commerce Member.

The Central Price and Supply Board will be an executive body constituted to assist the Civil Supplies Commissioner (Rice and Miscellaneous) and the Wheat Commissioner for India in the performance of their duties relating to food grains and will be presided over by the Civil Supplies Commissioner (Rice and Miscellaneous). Its functions will be to advise the Central Government in regard to the formulation of a programme of movement of supplies and to advise the Provincial Governments in regard to the principles governing the fixation of secondary prices in relation to basic prices. It will also scrutinise the data received from the Regional Price and Supply Boards and from Provinces and States in regard to the surpluses and deficits in different areas and will co-ordinate the requirements of the different areas in respect of food grains.

The Conference recommended that as Fair Price Shops are likely to exercise a salutary effect on retail prices, such shops should be opened wherever possible in poorer localities by Government, Local Bodies or, with the assistance of Government or Local Bodies, by approved trade agencies or philanthropists.

## CONCLUSIONS OF EARLIER PRICE CONTROL CONFERENCES REVIEWED

Here is a review of the conclusions of the previous five Price Control Conferences and the measures which the Government of India have taken so far to ensure proper supply of commodities at reasonable prices.

Immediately after the outbreak of war in September 1939, there was an abrupt rise in retail prices. Within the first week orders were issued delegating power under the Defence of India Rules to Provincial Governments to fix prices of certain necessities of life, namely, foodstuffs, salt, kerosene oil and the cheaper qualities of cotton cloth.

The First Price Control Conference was held on October 18 and 19, 1939. Among other conclusions reached by that Conference it was agreed (1) that the list of essential commodities already notified was adequate; (2) that in the case of imported goods and those that were of all-India importance, the basic price at the first stage should be fixed Centrally, and in the case of other goods, by the Provinces; (3) that the normal basis should be "replacement cost"; and (4) that it was desirable to develop a "price intelligence service."

The general opinion of the Conference was that it was not at that stage necessary to prevent the rise in price of agricultural products. At the time of this Conference the weekly index number of primary commodities stood at 111.4 only (base: week ended August 19, 1939=100).

### Second Conference

Soon afterwards a boom period began, and in December 1939 the weekly index number rose to 135.9. This necessitated the convening of the Second Price Control Conference, which was held on January 24 and 25, 1940. The general opinion in this Conference, too, was still to favour non-interference with rise in the basic prices of agricultural products. The need for co-ordination of activities was emphasised and it was generally agreed that the fixation of prices at the stage of production and at primary wholesale markets should be a Central responsibility; Provincial and State units to be responsible for determining the margins between the primary wholesale stage and the later stages, including the retail stage, of distribution, and to fix retail prices by superimposing such controlled margins on the controlled or, in the absence of control, the current wholesale prices.

From the date of this Conference until late in 1940 a period of generally declining prices set in, the above quoted index number falling from 135.3 in January 1940 to 109.7 in February 1941. A rise then began, however, the index number rising to 138.3 in September 1941. In June 1941, the powers of price control already delegated to Provincial Governments were strengthened by delegation of power to prohibit withholding from sale of the articles scheduled for price control.

### Third Conference

The Third Price Control Conference was held on October 16 and 17, 1941. At this

Conference most attention was paid to the cases of cotton cloth and yarn, prices of which had soared as a result of the freezing order against Japan. This discussion may be said to have been the genesis of plans for the production of standard cloth and for the control of distribution of yarn.

Regarding the position of wheat, the Hon'ble Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, then Commerce Member to the Government of India, who presided over the Conference, observed that there did not seem to be very grave apprehension at the moment regarding the rise in price of agricultural products, but that the question of wheat prices had to be very carefully watched. It might be possible, or even necessary, he added, for the Central Government to intervene at any stage if there was a tendency for a rise in the price of wheat.

### The Wheat Problem

The wheat problem continued to grow in seriousness. The reduction of the import duty to a nominal level on September 30, 1941, had little effect. On November 2, a Press Note was issued warning traders that the Government considered Rs. 4-6-0 per maund at Lyallpur and Hapur to be a suitable maximum price and that traders trading at higher rates would be doing so at their own risk. But as this and other warnings were of no avail, on December 5, 1941, a definite order was issued fixing the maximum price for wheat at Rs. 4-6-0 per maund at Lyallpur and Hapur, and authorising Provincial Governments to determine the maximum price at any other place "having regard to the normal relation between prices at such place and at Lyallpur and Hapur."

On December 31, 1941, a Wheat Commissioner for India was appointed. In the hope of stimulating activity in the marketing of the new crop, the maximum prices were revised at the end of March 1942, so as to stand at Rs. 5 per maund at Lyallpur and Hapur and Rs. 5-4-0 per maund at Sind Centres. On April 30, 1942, the Wheat Control Order was issued; and thereafter movements of wheat by rail from producing Provinces to consuming areas were regulated by permits issued by the Wheat Commissioner. Movements within producing provinces were left to be controlled by the Provincial Governments.

### Fourth Conference

The Fourth Price Control Conference was held on February 6 and 7, 1942. At this Conference it was recognised that the accommodation of traffic to the most efficient use of the limited transport facilities available was a consideration of great importance and that control over distribution in co-ordination with transport arrangements might have to take precedence over control of prices. A distinction was drawn between commodities (like wheat) which were subjects of all-India distribution and others (like rice and bajra) which, broadly speaking, had to move only within certain zones. To deal with the latter, the idea



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of Regional Price and Supply Boards, to work in close relation with Regional Transport Boards, was evolved.

## Fifth Conference

The Fifth Price Control Conference was held on April 7 and 8, 1942. The vital importance of linking control over distribution with price control was now fully emphasised and the Conference recommended the introduction of the licensing of wholesale dealers (preferably established dealers) by Provincial and State Governments, which would enable those Governments to maintain information as to the course of distribution of the various food grains, and would minimise the evil of hoarding. It was left to the discretion of the Provincial Governments to decide whether retail dealers should also be licensed.

The Food Grains Control Order was issued on May 21, 1942, giving powers to Provincial Governments to license wholesale dealers in food grains and to require returns of their transactions. By another order issued a few days later, an attempt was made to check speculative dealings which were believed to be partly responsible for the pressure of prices against the prescribed maximum even so early in the season.

## Price Control Machinery

The Price Control machinery at the Centre, besides the Price Control Conference organisation, consists of the Economic Adviser to the Government of India, the Wheat Commissioner for India, the Civil Supplies Commissioner and the Sugar Controller. The control of prices of wheat at the primary wholesale stage and of inter-Provincial movements of wheat is in the hands of the Central authorities. Similar control at later wholesale stages and at the retail stage is the responsibility of Provincial and State Governments. All stages of control of prices and distribution of other food grains have been left to Provincial and State Governments to enforce, aided by the advice of the Regional Boards.

All the Provinces have set up control organisations, whether in the hands of officers designated as Price Controllers, Directors of Civil Supplies, etc., or forming a branch of the Provincial Secretariat. Generally speaking, these organisations work through District Magistrates and the District staff.

## SIR REGINALD MAXWELL'S STATEMENT IN ASSEMBLY

[ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 338 ]

"The picture which I have been compelled to place before the House is one that will give no satisfaction to thinking people or to those who are jealous of this country's honour and repute. They will regret the orgy of destruction, the waste of Indian lives and property—things that can only bring loss and hardship to Indians themselves. They will regret that the forces that should have been facing the enemy at our gates should have been diverted to the task of quelling an attempted internal revolution. They will regret that, with Indian soldiers' repute never standing higher in the world: with victory drawing ever nearer and with it the promised fulfilment of India's highest dreams: one political party, for its own ends, should have des-

cended to acts of sabotage as a means of enforcing its demands, regardless of the help thereby given to the enemy.

"I have before now given warning in this House of the danger of arousing the passions of the excitable masses through irresponsible agitation. These events afford more than sufficient justification for the preventive action taken by Government in the past, for which we have often been attacked. They show how real is the peril in this country of unleashing the forces of disorder and how quickly, when that is done, the reign of hooliganism—always latent and waiting for its opportunity—tends to establish itself, so that no man's life or property is safe. Now that the danger has become apparent to all it is, I am sure this House will agree, not only for Government but for all who wish to save the country from very terrible danger to dedicate themselves, at whatever personal sacrifice, to the task of mobilising the active help of the people themselves in preventing further acts of violence and disorder. It is not enough to condemn these things in the abstract: it is for every citizen to see that they do not happen."

## WAR RISKS (GOODS) INSURANCE

The Central Government has decided that the rate of premium payable under any policy of insurance issued under the War Risks (Goods) Insurance Ordinance, 1940, in respect of the quarter beginning on October 1, 1942, shall continue to be the same as at present, *viz.*, three annas per month or part of a month for each complete sum of one hundred rupees.

## MARKETING OF RICE IN INDIA

The present food thrive in India and the threatened shortage of rice due to the difficulty of replacing supplies formerly obtained from Burma, Indo-China and Thailand invest the publication of an abridged edition of the Agricultural Marketing Department's Report on the marketing of rice with more than ordinary interest. Normally India, though the world's second largest producer of rice, imported considerable quantities of paddy and rice. Of her normal production of 29,530,000 tons of rice in 1937-38, India exported only 250,000 tons, while she imported 1,398,000 tons of paddy and rice, so that her net available supplies were 30,678,000 tons valued at Rs. 292 crores.

### Yield Of Rice Per Acre

The Report suggests that as one step towards self-sufficiency, better farming and improved seed can do much to improve the yield per acre. Figures given in the Report show that in 1938-39 the average yield of rice per acre in India was 731 lbs., a figure which compares very unfavourably with those of the U.S., Japan, Egypt and Italy where the yield per acre during the three years 1936-37 to 1938-39 averaged 1,481 lbs., 2,307 lbs., 2,079 lbs. and 3,000 lbs. per acre respectively.

The Report stresses that by a proper system of financing and a more direct participation in the marketing of his produce,

## CIVIL DEFENCE EXPENDITURE

The Public Accounts Committee examined on August 14, 1942, the Appropriation Accounts for 1940-41 of the grants and appropriations for which the Home Department, the Civil Defence Department and the Department of External Affairs are responsible.

It was stated that the total cost of the last census operations had amounted to about Rs. 21 lakhs. There would this time, however, be no Census Report on the usual lines as the census operations had been greatly curtailed owing to the war and only a collection of tables would be published.

The Civil Defence Department explained the present arrangements for sharing the cost of Civil Defence measures between the Centre and the Provinces. Although these measures generally speaking are, according to the Constitution, the responsibility of the Provinces, the Central Government realising that their cost might prove to be an excessive burden on the Provinces have offered to bear a considerable part of it.

The annual expenditure on Civil Defence in each Province is divided into slabs, the amounts of the slabs varying from Province to Province according to the varying circumstances of each. The first slab is the liability of the Province, but of the second the Government of India bear 50 per cent and of the third 75 per cent, while all expenditure in excess of this is borne by them to the extent of 87½ per cent.

Payments to the Provinces on this account in 1941-42 amounted to Rs. 58 lakhs but in the current year the figure is expected to go up to Rs. 3,78 lakhs.

the grower can secure an increased share of the price paid by the consumer. It observes that co-operative organisations of growers for financing, storing and milling rice are needed.

It also observes that in the interests of the producer a greater degree of standardisation is needed and describes the steps taken to grade rice under the Agmark scheme and the success already achieved in that direction.

## WHEAT PERMITS

All permits issued by the Wheat Commissioner for India during the months of August and September remained valid during the month of October and station masters were instructed accordingly.

No application for renewing validity of these permits need be addressed to the Wheat Commissioner for India.

As regards permits issued by the Wheat Commissioner in May, June and July and validated for the months of August and September, it is not proposed to extend their validity as a matter of course and each case will be dealt with on its merits.

No application for extending the validity of such permits will be considered unless accompanied with the relevant permits.



# COMMUNICATIONS

## SIR EDWARD BENTHALL EXPLAINS HOW INDIAN RAILWAYS ARE COPING WITH INCREASED TRAFFIC

The sixth meeting of the Transport Advisory Council began on September 9, 1942, in the Council House, New Delhi, the Hon'ble Sir Edward Benthall, War Transport Member to the Government of India, presiding.

In his opening statement, the War Transport Member referred to the various causes that have contributed to increased pressure on railway traffic. "The Railways have accomplished no mean achievement," he said, explaining how the Railways were coping with this increased traffic. This was mostly achieved, he pointed out, by greater attention to operating efficiency, as a result of which the efficiency of Indian railways has increased by about 25 per cent and compares favourably with the best American practice.

The War Transport Member paid a tribute to the loyalty of the railwaymen, who loyally stuck to their work wherever protection was offered, when railway property was attacked during the recent violent disturbances in the country; railway track, where interfered with, was speedily restored.

He explained some of the difficulties which were besetting the Transport authorities in India, particularly since the events of the Spring had both intensified the need for a greater volume of traffic on the Indian railways and had also altered the normal routing of their traffic. The great economic and industrial activity now taking place in the country necessitate the railways working at a constant high pressure throughout the year without any slack season such as normally enabled the railway staff to relax their efforts somewhat in the hot weather and to lay off rolling stock for slack season repairs.

A readjustment of shipping as between East and West coast ports entailed a similar readjustment on railways generally to cope with increased traffic in many directions.

### Military Traffic

In quoting some figures of the increase of military traffic, both goods and passengers, he pointed out that this traffic had often to be carried at short notice involving considerably light haulage of coaching stock and special type goods stock and naturally created a special problem, when added to the other burdens placed on the railways. He pointed out that whereas most other services had expanded, the railways had to meet the extra work with depleted trained staff owing to the large numbers of officers and men released to the other services, while the contribution of the railway workshops to the production of munitions has recently meant some diminution of the railways' ability to maintain repairs of locos and rolling stock at the very highest efficiency.

### Magnitude Of The Problem

Some idea, he said, of the magnitude of the problem which the railways have had to deal with will be apparent from the fact that in 1941-42 the increase of ton miles on the Broad Gauge system over the last

pre-war year represents an increase of 28 per cent. In passenger traffic there has been an increase of 3,139 million passenger miles as compared with 1938-39, or 700 million compared with the previous peak year, in spite of the fact that public passengers services have been reduced to some 70 per cent of the pre-war figure. Since the average distance travelled by a passenger is some 35 miles, it may be estimated that the railways carried 2 crores more passengers than ever before and 9 to 10 crores more than the pre-war average. Discomfort has been inevitable; it must be endured during the war time and no alleviation can be expected.

### What Has Been Accomplished

It is only right that the Council should appreciate what those in charge of Transport hitherto had accomplished. The demands of the Army have been fulfilled, every important industry has been kept in operation, the increased production of munitions has been maintained and the essential civil requirements of the country have been met, although at times with great difficulty. This has been done almost entirely by close attention to operating efficiency.

The Member for War Transport then quoted figures to show that the efficiency of the railways, judged by one of the indices which was generally regarded by railway experts as being the best guide of efficiency, showed an improvement by over 25 per cent. He added that many of the railway operating figures compared well with the best American practice.

### Future Plans

After touching on the Road Transport and Priorities position, which would largely form the subject of discussion at the Council and on the necessity of giving serious attention to the development of organised cart traffic, he proceeded as follows:—

"I must emphasize that the rail transport position is likely to grow worse and not better as the production of the country increases. No one dealing with the problem underestimates the stringency of the position or the necessity of further efforts to tackle it vigorously. We have reached a stage where transport material must rank for the very highest priority equal to any other munitions. We are emphasizing to the authorities of the United Nations which are concerned with the allocation of locomotive output the need for additional locomotives if India's war production potential is to be increased to the extent which we all hope. We are preparing concrete plans for the manufacture of locomotives in India, but I fear that these plans cannot mature to be of appreciable assistance for some considerable time. The Railway authorities are paying special attention to the need for speeding up locomotive repairs so as to increase the number on the line at any given time, since if the percentage of locos under repair can be reduced, it is achieving a result equivalent to the purchase or production of new locomotives. To achieve



SIR E. C. BENTHALL

this improvement, the railways may be forced to take back some, though a relatively small part, of the workshop capacity now devoted to munitions. This is more possible since the output of munitions is growing as the result of increased production capacity elsewhere.

### Co-operation For Better Wagon Loading

"Similarly, we must not be content with the present rate of wagon loading. The railways are working incessantly to see that each wagon is fully loaded and that wagons are not kept idling. But if we are to meet the essential demand, we must do even better. Programmes are being worked out industry by industry to make sure that raw materials and finished goods are carried by the shortest possible distances. Such plans can best be matured in close co-operation with the industries themselves, and I gratefully acknowledge the assistance which has been given and has been promised by many of the leading industries. Similarly, I am grateful to the Army for the appreciation which they show of our transport difficulties and for the co-operation of those in authority in helping us to solve them. It is given to many individual officers of the Army and to the great industries to make a real contribution to the war problem and to their own interests by close attention to the prevention of unnecessary long hauls and cross traffic and to the rapid turn-round of wagons.

### Eliminating Unessential Traffic

"The question of the elimination of unessential traffic has been having close attention, but it must be recognised that in India there is little that can be classed as luxury trades. To refuse transport altogether to an industry which is not essential for the war effort will create serious problems of unemployment, and I am reluctant to take this drastic action unless and until it becomes absolutely essential; and in the meantime we feel that it is



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preferable to concentrate rather upon ensuring that essential traffic is moved, leaving the non-essential industries, of which there are few, to fight for the wagons which are not covered by priority.

"It is premature to say much about the effect of the political disturbances upon transport. All I will say is that in the face of the most violent pressure the railwaymen have struck loyally to their work wherever adequate protection has been afforded to them. The wilful destruction of the property of the Indian people is however putting an added strain upon the railwaymen and cannot be said by any stretch of the imagination to be contributing in any way to India's advancement. I am glad, therefore, to pay a tribute to the patriotic conduct of the railwaymen and to the sound advice given to them by their leaders, while I am also pleased to report that the railwaymen have already done remarkably good work in restoring the damage to public property. They have thus served their country well and with such backing the Transport Authorities will, I am convinced, be able, in spite of the difficulties looming ahead, to meet the demands of the country which are essential to the prosecution of the war and the maintenance of the civil needs of the people of India."

## COUNCIL'S CONCLUSIONS

The Transport Advisory Council met again on the following day under the presidency of the Hon'ble Sir Edward Benthall. Various transport problems which have arisen as a result of the war were discussed.

Arrangements for co-ordinating all Defence and other Central demands for civil transport, conservation of motor vehicles and prospects of getting vehicles and components from the United States under the Lease-Lend scheme, the question of encouraging alternative fuels like producer gas and power alcohol, relieving railway traffic by a greater use of road and water transport facilities and the working of the Railway Priorities Scheme—these were some of the subjects which were prominently considered by the Council.

### Co-ordination Of Civil Transport

The Central Government's scheme regarding the co-ordination of Central and Provincial demands for civil transport vehicles, which had already been circulated to the Provinces, was accepted by the Council, subject to the substitution of "Motor Transport Controller" for "Provincial Transport Controller." The essence of the scheme is the centralisation of control of motor transport in the province in the hands of one officer to whom the demands of the Defence Services and Central or Provincial Departments would be intimated, either specifically or in general terms, by the War Transport Department.

### Import Prospects Under Lease-Lend

Information was made available to the Council regarding the prospects of getting imports for civil purposes of motor vehicles and spare parts from America under the Lease-Lend scheme. It was stated that a requisition had been placed in the United States for the import into India, by the end of 1943, of a sufficient number of vehicles required as replacements; spare parts had also been asked for.

Since it was obligatory that all motor vehicles and spares imported for civil use on Lease-Lend should be used for essential purposes connected with or arising out of the war, it was necessary for the Central Government to control the use of such vehicles and parts. With this object in view, a suitable scheme was discussed with the Council and generally accepted.

The Council noted the position regarding tyres and the Rubber Controller's explanation of the manner in which the provincial quotas had been calculated. The Controller undertook to consider any representations regarding the inadequacy of the quota for essential purposes.

The position in regard to lubricants and the progress made so far with the development of vegetable substitutes were explained to the Council. It was recommended that certain notes on the progress achieved in this direction in some provinces, together with the report of the Commerce Department on the progress made with the Central Lubricants Committee, should be circulated to provinces for information.

### Extending Use Of Producer Gas

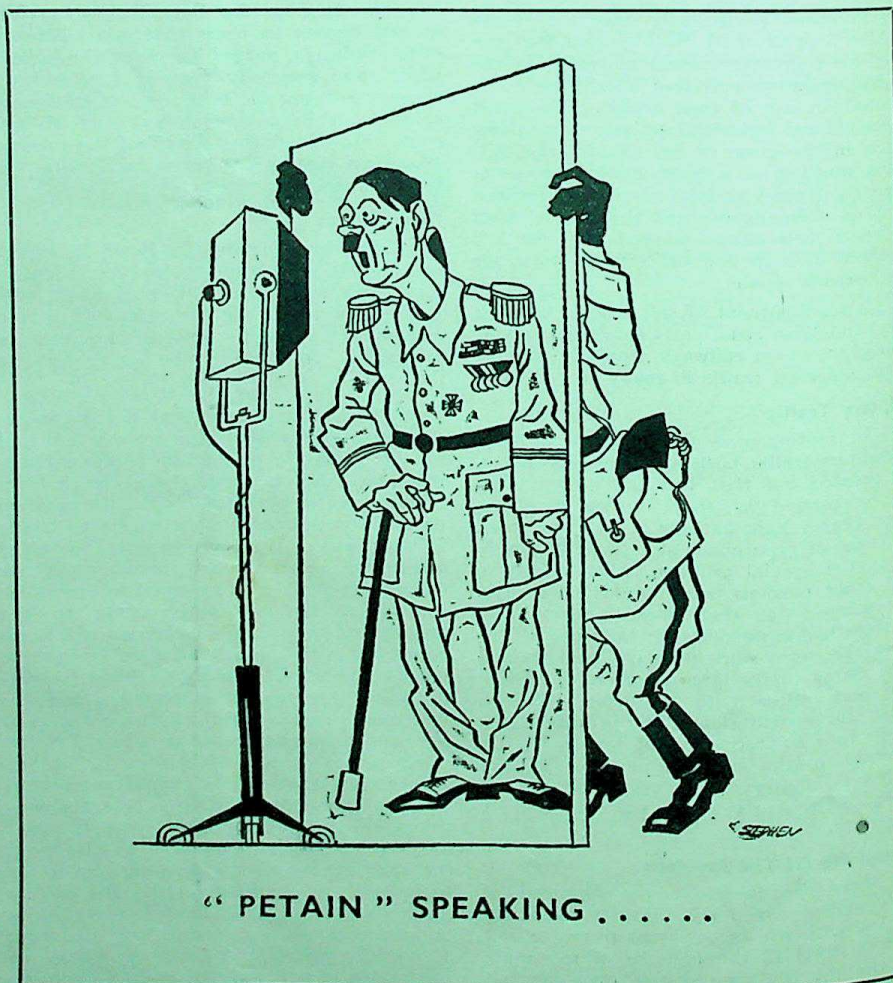
Progress made with the conversion of motor vehicles to producer gas was placed before the Council. More than 6,000 vehicles have been so converted and quotas of steel have been obtained for conversion of another 12,000 vehicles within the next six months.

The Central Government undertook to do everything possible to expedite the distribution of controlled steel to the manufacturers of producer gas plants.

The position regarding the production of charcoal was considered as being generally satisfactory. The point was raised whether it would be possible to continue the supply of Government graded charcoal for producer gas plants in adequate quantities if the prices at which it was sold were substantially below the market price of domestic charcoal, as the graded charcoal would then tend to be diverted to domestic uses. The Council noted that this was a contingency which would have to be watched.

In respect of the present price of producer gas plants, the Council was of the opinion that in some cases prices were excessive. It was reasonable to expect that market price would be kept down by competition and control of prices *ex* manufacturers would be operative after the supply of controlled steel had become effective.

As regards means of encouraging owners to convert, the Council was apprised of the practice adopted in Bombay of granting advances and partial exemption from the payment of the tax, on conditions of quarterly inspection. This enabled the transport authorities to supervise the proper maintenance both of the vehicles and of the producer gas plants.



"PETAIN" SPEAKING .....



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The Council accepted the principle that the production of alcohol or rectified spirit should be accelerated but restricted mainly to areas in and near which molasses are available, so as to reduce the demand on transport in present conditions. Provincial Governments were advised that they should reach a very early decision regarding the demand for power alcohol plants, for import from the United States, which they wished to be supported by the Central Government.

## Relief To Railways

The Council agreed that the use of petrol for passenger traffic should be severely restricted and that the policy should be that, save in very exceptional cases, buses should be driven on producer gas. It further agreed that, in view of the tyre shortage, it was necessary to restrict the speed of the buses. It recommended that Provincial Governments should undertake a campaign to educate drivers to save their tyres by avoiding speeding.

As regards cart traffic, the Council was informed that there was some reserve of bullock carts available for transport not only in slack seasons but throughout the year. It considered that the best way of utilising bullock power would be to create local demands by a greater closing of the stations for booking. It was decided that Provincial Governments should be asked, after consultation with their Transport Boards, to send up lists of stations within their areas at which, in their opinion, the booking for goods should be closed. This list would then be considered in the light of operational conditions and acted upon to the extent feasible.

## Inland Water Transport

It was recognised that special attention would have to be given to roads serving railway stations, to which goods would have to be transported as a result of closing of intermediate booking stations.

The Council recommended that the question of greater use of inland water transport by improving the waterways and building new craft should be further investigated. But it was noted at the same time that construction of craft was governed by the available supply of timber and steel.

The Council agreed to legislation being undertaken to postpone the operation of Chapter VIII (Insurance against third party risks) of the Motor Vehicles Act 1939 until July 1, 1946, and to the other proposals for amending the Act being postponed.

## Railway Priorities

Regarding Provincial Transport Boards, the Council agreed that no formal change in functions was required and that non-official representation might be given through a panel which might be consulted by the Transport Boards or any Committee through which it might work when matters affecting commercial interests were being considered.

It was announced that the Railway Board would consider, in consultation with the Controller of Railway Priorities, the question of circulating to Provincial Governments each month a statement of the railway transport situation on each Railway.

A point was raised whether in war time more frequent meetings of the Transport Advisory Council should not be held. The Hon'ble Member for War Transport stated that he would be prepared to call more frequent meetings of the Council if any necessity arose.

## XMAS AND NEW YEAR MAILS TO BRITAIN

On account of the present uncertain conditions created by the war, the public are advised to post their Christmas and New Year mails for the United Kingdom by the end of September, 1942, a further allowance of about two weeks being made for other countries in Europe and America. The air-cum-sea service *via* Durban takes three to four weeks less, but owing to the load difficulty on planes, the public are requested to utilize the all-sea route for their Christmas and New Year mails.

If, however, Christmas and New Year greetings are sent by airgraph (to the countries to which this service is available) or by the all-air route to U.S.A. and Canada, they may be posted by November 15, 1942.

## APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS OF P. AND T. DEPARTMENT

The Public Accounts Committee, on August 13, 1942, examined the Appropriation Accounts of the Posts and Telegraphs Department for 1940-41.

The accounts for the year showed a revenue of Rs. 13.28 crores as against an expenditure of Rs. 12.03 crores, resulting in a net surplus of Rs. 1,25,00,000. A noteworthy feature of the year was that for the first time in history every branch of the Department, Posts, Telegraphs, Telephones and Radio showed a profit, the Telegraph and Radio branches hitherto having run usually at a loss. The surplus for the next year is expected to be even greater amounting to no less than Rs. 3.40 crores.

## An Interesting Fact

An interesting fact revealed about the Department was that the percentage of loss to the Department due to thefts, fraud, etc. to the total turnover was the microscopic figure of .0009. The corresponding figure for the United Kingdom was .004.

The Government Telephones Board has acquired all the shares of the Bengal Telephone Corporation, 987 of the shares of the Bombay Telephone Company and over 70 per cent of the shares of the Madras Company. It is hoped that these concerns will be merged in the Posts and Telegraphs Department by 1943.

## STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ROADS

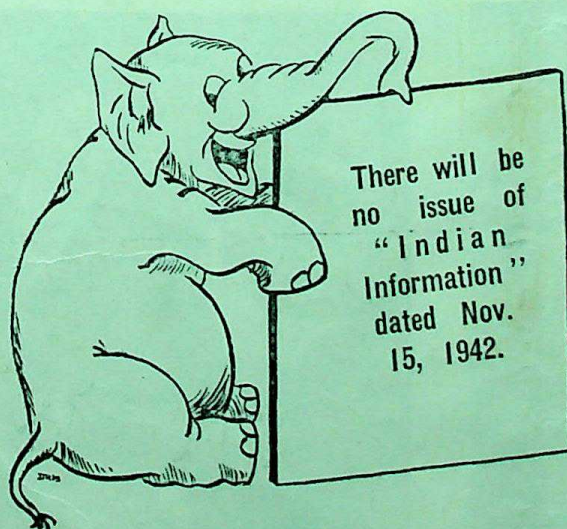
A meeting of the Standing Committee for Roads was held on September 22, 1942, at New Delhi under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Sir Mohammad Usman, Member, Posts and Air Department. The Committee approved the report of the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India (Roads) on the administration of the Road Fund during 1941-42.

Since the inception of the Road Fund, schemes to the total value of 14 crores have been approved against road fund allocations, the actual expenditure being nearly 10 crores. During the year under review expenditure from the Road Fund was 1.79 crores, indicating great activity in road development.

The Committee approved certain schemes of road development in Madras, Bombay, Bengal, Punjab, Bihar and Delhi provinces and sanctioned the continuance of certain special establishment for road development in the Punjab and Bengal. The Committee also approved the purchase by Government of a motor vehicle fitted with Producer Gas equipment for experimental purposes.

## PRESS TELEGRAMS FOR RUSSIA

A Press telegram service between India and Russia has been started. The rate per word for telegrams sent from India is nine annas.







PHYLLIS MAYES MANAGES A TIMBER YARD AT BRENTFORD. HERE, SHE SHARPENS A SAW



MISS PHYLLIS MEASURES TIMBER IN THE YARD

# “INDIA NEEDS YOU NOW”

‘India Needs You Now’ is the slogan of the Women’s Voluntary Service which has done such noble work in Britain, and which is growing rapidly in India. It is primarily an association of women who are keen to help in the present emergency and are not waiting for the possibility of active war operations.

Headquarters of the W.V.S. aim to establish bureaux to give information and assistance in all spheres of women’s war service in India. They will be able to

find the war job for which a woman is best suited and supply information about opportunities for service in secretarial work, lecturing, Air Raid Precautions, blood transfusion, Air Defence Corps to quote a few of the many activities about which advice will be available. They will also help families of Service personnel and evacuees who need guidance.

Particulars of the Women’s Voluntary Service can be obtained from the General Secretary, H.Q., W.V.S., Simla.

THE KING AND QUEEN, DURING THEIR VISIT TO A BRITISH TYRE FACTORY, DISCUSS THE MANUFACTURING PROCESS WITH A GIRL WORKER



THEIR MAJESTIES EVINCE KEEN INTEREST IN THE WORK DONE BY A GIRL WORKER AT AN A. A. WEAPON FACTORY







GIRL AT WORK ON THE ASSEMBLY OF BRISTOL AIRCRAFT. SHE IS CONNECTING UP THE CABLES FOR THE BOMB RELEASE MECHANISM



ONE OF THE MANY BRITISH GIRLS WHO ARE CONDUCTING A FLEET OF MOBILE X-RAY VANS EQUIPPED WITH UP-TO-DATE APPARATUS

## NURSES WANTED FOR HOSPITALS

An old prejudice of the Indian soldier—against being nursed by women—is quickly disappearing. Correspondingly, the need for more trained nurses in India becomes increasingly urgent.

To help meet this situation, sisters of the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service for the first time in their history are now undertaking the nursing in many Indian hospitals and the services of the Auxiliary Nursing Service and of voluntary workers are freely employed, in

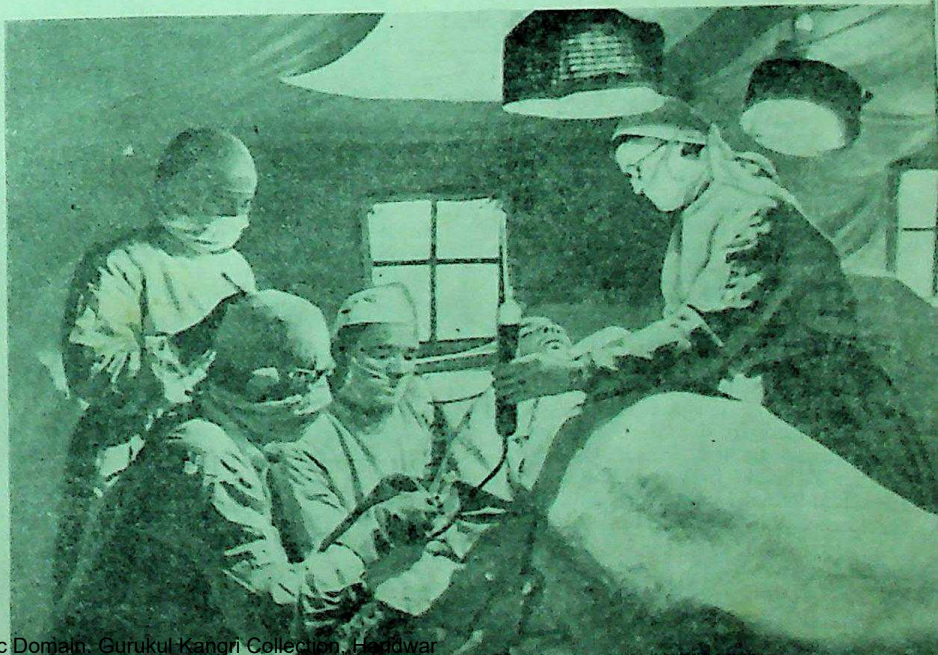
addition to the members of the I.M.N.S. who normally staff Indian Military Hospitals.

The opportunity of being trained in a profession in which there are fine prospects and little competition—in India there is only one trained nurse to every 55,093 of the population—is being offered to the women of India. While the number of recruits has been encouraging, there is much room for improvement if Indian troops are to receive the nursing and attention they so greatly deserve.

THE QUEEN TALKS TO 51-YEAR-OLD MISS CROSBY, FORMERLY A HOUSEKEEPER, AT A MUNITIONS FACTORY



SOVIET DOCTORS MAKING A BLOOD TRANSFUSION IN A FIELD HOSPITAL ON THE RUSSIAN FRONT. THE BLOOD IS TAKEN FROM A VEIN IN THE ARM





# INDIA'S WAR EFFORT NEEDS WOMEN'S HELP

**R**ecruitment to the General Service category of the Auxiliary Nursing Service, India, which had been suspended temporarily pending the revision of the terms and conditions of training, was resumed from October. Under the revised terms, candidates will receive a preliminary training for 3 to 9 months in certain selected civil hospitals throughout the country, provided that their services are not required in the meantime for military duty. During training the candidates will be provided with free accommodation and board in the hospital and will receive a small personal allowance in addition.

The Lady District Superintendents of the St. John Ambulance Brigade Overseas, will, as usual, act as the recruiting agents.

## AID FOR SERVICE FAMILIES

Families of Service personnel, not ordinarily domiciled in India, will be assisted in all matters regarding their welfare by the Women's Voluntary Service Organisation.

In order that the W.V.S. may have the necessary information to hand, families of Service personnel are asked to complete particulars on a registration card which will be furnished at W.V.S. offices.

Families will be divided into two classifications for record purposes. Under Class A will be families whose head is overseas, is stationed in a non-concession area in India or is in a non-family station. This class also includes those who are killed, missing or prisoner of war.

The second classification B deals with those evacuee families whose head has been killed, is missing or a prisoner of war.

## INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE

As a wartime measure, the Government of India have decided that medical practitioners who hold the following qualifications will be eligible for appointment to the Emergency Cadre of the Indian Medical Service :—

1. Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery of the Mysore University. (M.B.B.S., Mysore.)
2. Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery of the Osmania University. (M.B.B.S., Osmania.)

## RECRUITMENT TO I. M. S. DENTAL BRANCH

As a wartime measure the Government of India have decided to admit Indians holding foreign dental qualifications for recruitment to the Dental Branch of the Indian Medical Service (Emergency Commission). Each case will be considered on its merits by the Selection Board.



BRITISH GIRL WORKERS IN AN AIRCRAFT FACTORY ASSEMBLE THE MAIN SPARS



Queen Mary, who celebrated her 75th birthday on May 26, 1942, helps to saw wood on the estate of her war-time home in a west of England mansion



## PERSONALITIES

## Who's Who In National Defence Council—



Sir Cowasjee Jehangir, Bart., K.C.I.E., O.B.E.

## SIR COWASJEE JEHANGIR

**S**ir Cowasjee Jehangir, Bart., K.C.I.E., O.B.E., M.L.A. (Central), J.P., is a prominent member of the Parsi community of Bombay and a leader of the National Liberal Federation of India. He is also well-known in Indian business circles, as he has a controlling interest in important Indian industrial and banking concerns, among which are the Tata Iron and Steel Company, the Bombay-Burmah Trading Corporation and the Bank of India, of each of which he is a director, and is a partner in the firm of Cowasjee Jehangir and Company.

Born on February 16, 1879, Sir Cowasjee was educated at St. Xavier's College, Bombay, and St. John's College, Cambridge, where he took his M.A. degree.

Returning to India, he took an active interest in civic affairs and problems relating to local self-government, and was elected a member of the Bombay Municipal Corporation with which he was directly connected in more than one capacity for over a decade and a half. Sir Cowasjee was Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Corporation (1914-15), member of the Bombay Improvement Trust and later, President of the Corporation.

During the last war, he served as Honorary Secretary of the War Loan Committee (1917-18) and was for a time non-official member of the Provincial Legislative Council.

## Executive Councillor

On December 6, 1921, Sir Cowasjee was appointed Acting Member of the Executive Council, Bombay Government, in charge of the Revenue Department, which post he held till July 15, 1922. The following year, he was again appointed to the Executive Council, and this time he was in charge of the General Department. He guided the affairs of this department till 1928.

Two years later, he was elected to the Central Legislative Assembly for the City of Bombay, and has since continued to be a member of this House.

A Liberal leader, Sir Cowasjee went to London as a delegate to the three Round Table Conferences and also took part in the deliberations of the World Economic Conference (1933) and represented the Central Legislature at the Empire Parliamentary Conference held in London (1935). The following year, he presided over the session of the National Liberal Federation of India.

In 1937, Sir Cowasjee again went to London as one of India's representatives at the Coronation of His Imperial Majesty King George VI.

Sir Cowasjee Jehangir was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) in 1918 and created a C.I.E. in 1926 and K.C.I.E. seven years later. He succeeded to the Baronetcy in 1934.



## NEW MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL DEFENCE COUNCIL

In the vacancies caused by the resignations of the Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman, the Hon'ble Dr. B. R. Ambedkar and the Hon'ble Sir J. P. Srivastava, consequent on their appointment as Members of the Governor-General's Executive Council, H. E. the Viceroy has been pleased to appoint **Sir K. V. Reddy** (since deceased), **Mr. R. P. Masani** and **Pandit Rajnath Kunzru**, respectively, to be Members of the National Defence Council.

His Excellency has also been pleased to nominate **Mr. Frank R. Anthony**, President-in-Chief of the Anglo-Indian and Domiciled European Association, to be a Member of the National Defence Council in the vacancy caused by the death of Sir Henry Gidney.



## SAIYID ABDULLAH BIN UMAR ASH SHATIRI

Arabic scholars will hear with regret the news of the death in July of **Saiyid Abdullah Bin Umar Ash Shatiri**, Rector of the Academy at Tarim. Saiyid Abdullah was the author of the well-known "Arjuzah" (Iambic poem) on Arabic Grammar and his commentaries on the Sharia are known throughout the Islamic world. During his Rectorship of Tarim Academy which was founded 200 years ago, Saiyid Abdullah taught students from Arabia, Abyssinia, India, Java, Malaya, Somaliland and other Islamic countries.



## ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF A.I.R., LUCKNOW

**Dr. Mrs. C. Prem Nath Das**, Principal, Isabella Thoburn College, Lucknow, and the **Honourable Mr. Justice Ghulam Hasan**, Judge, Oudh Chief Court, Lucknow, have been appointed members of the Advisory Committee of the Lucknow Station of All India Radio *vice* Begum Aizaz Rasul and Dr. Bhattacharya, respectively.

## MAJOR JOHN PUN YUNG-HWANG

**M**ajor John Pun Yung-hwang is a fighter ace from China—who after five years of active service against the Japanese has been sent to London as Air Attache at the Chinese Embassy.

Most of his battles took place under conditions in which individual tallies had to be forgotten, but he has nine "certified" victories to his credit—and a row of ribbons on his breast.

Major Pun Yung-hwang is a young man grown old rather sooner than is just. Five years is a very long career for a fighter pilot who has never had a truly top-rank plane in which to fight. He has been at war since he left school, and now he is a man with an important post, a wife and a child. He is a lucky man. Of the other youths with whom he entered the Chinese air force, only one or two are alive today.

## Japan At The Cross-Roads

Major Pun Yung-hwang says that the Chinese actually had air superiority for the first fortnight of the war, and if they could have held it, the whole course of the struggle might have been changed. But, when the Chinese lost planes, there were no replacements. While the Government scoured the world for replacements, surviving pilots formed themselves into salvage gangs. They gathered up pieces of wrecked planes, and from these they fashioned the fighters with which to continue the battle.

After a while China opened factories of her own, and these helped to keep the air force in existence.

Major Pun Yung-hwang believes that there is now an opportunity to weigh the scales against Japan. Japan, he says, is at the cross-roads. She must attack either Russia or India. In both cases her flank would be exposed to aerial attack from China.



## INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

The Government of India have appointed **Dr. K. N. V. Sastri**, Assistant Professor of History, Intermediate College, Bangalore, as a corresponding member of the Indian Historical Records Commission, for a period of five years, with effect from August 8, 1942.

The Government of India have decided to hold the 19th session of the Indian Historical Records Commission at Trivandrum in December, 1942.



## A. D. C. TO THE KING

His Majesty the King has been pleased to approve the appointment of **Colonel (Temporary Brigadier) L. C. T. Graham**, M.C., Indian Army, Deputy Adjutant-General, 10th Army, as Aide-de-Camp to His Majesty.



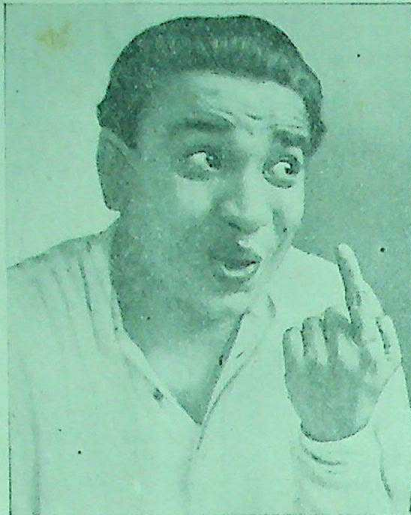
## ON THE A. I. R.

**F. W. BUSTIN FROM LAHORE: "FOOTNOTES TO THE NEWS" :—**

I think Goebbels is one of Germany's most useful generals. You know, if you have been listening in to Berlin, Rome, Tokyo or Saigon, that at first Axis broadcasters seized on the Imperialism *versus* Nationalism theme, sought to condemn the British for the arrests which one of them called "the negation of democracy in action"—and lauded Mr. Gandhi and his colleagues as martyrs. Then came the rioting, the hooliganism and the incendiarianism, with Government endeavouring to cope with them. The Axis theme changed. Now the attempt was made to liken events in India to recent occurrences in the countries of Axis-occupied Europe. Congressmen and those who act in the name of Congress even though they are not of it were likened to those underground organisations in France, Austria and Czechoslovakia which have been responsible for sabotage, for the shooting of German soldiers and, generally, with efforts to keep the free spirit of their countries alive despite the grinding of the German aggressionist heel. And the Governments of Great Britain and of India, in their measures to cope with the riotous outbreaks, were likened to the Axis overlords who, said Berlin, had been forced to deal severely with the saboteurs and the enemies of the New Order. Now I am of the opinion that the rank and file of those elements in India which have indulged in *goondaism* of the worst types are no more Congressmen than is, for instance, Mr. Amery himself. They are merely hooligans who, to borrow a phrase from Mr. Churchill, are out to make hell while the sun of resentment shines. But, for the purposes of argument, let us assume that all these rioters are good Nationalists; whose intense patriotism has driven them to forgetfulness of the Mahatma's non-violent teachings and whose resentment at the Government treatment of their leaders has forced them over the edge of permissible demonstration. Let us, in a word, agree with Berlin and Tokyo that those who burned down the Delhi Town Hall, those who tried to overturn buses in Bombay and those who allowed girls to bear the brunt of police action in Allahabad—let us assume that these people are comparable to those who in France and Czechoslovakia and Norway are doing their best to continue resistance and opposition to the aggressors. Now to complete the parallel and to make the Axis broadcasts bear some resemblance to truth, we shall have to look for similarities between the British in India—or the Government of India—and the Axis overlords of the occupied territories in Europe. This I have failed to do.

**V. Venkataraman from Trichinopoly: "Guide to Modern Wickedness—New Tyrannies for Old" :—**

Not even the most morbid will any longer expatiate on the virtues of Dictatorships and welcome them as the panacea for the supposed ills of the world. Dictatorship is an old and well tried form of Government and there is hardly any other about which we know as much as about it. In classical, medieval and early modern times, it has regularly appeared and nearly every time it has generally run to type. The term "Dictator" itself comes to us from Rome. The Greeks used the word tyrants but the Greek word was not considered adequate



**AJIT CHATTERJEE APPEARED IN 'BAIGNANIKER BHUL', A HUMOROUS SKETCH, RELAYED FROM A.I.R., CALCUTTA**

to express the exact character of modern dictatorships; it was from the Roman institution that the term was borrowed. Roman dictatorship was an honourable constitutional device of the Republic for meeting a crisis during a war or other times of urgency. The dictator was appointed for a limited term and when he laid down office, he was judged for his deeds while in office. In the modern sense, Dictatorships did not appear in Rome till after the Punic wars. Whether in Greece or Rome they had achievements to their credit. Even Aristotle's Constitution of Athens admits that the administration was more like a constitutional government than a tyranny, in every respect humane and mild. Nevertheless, tyranny had gained an evil connotation. Medieval Italian city-states had tyrants or Podastas. In early modern times, we have the enlightened despots but dynastic autocracies. All authoritative regimes exhibit certain common characteristics—personal rule, reliance on force, a depreciation of individual worth and spectacular achievements to catch the imagination of the people. They are essentially crisis governments called into existence when times were out of joint; though the actual circumstances and the nature of the crisis may differ with different countries. Military defeats, political resentment, national humiliation and economic distress have all contributed in different degrees to the present wave of autocracies in Europe.

**Wilfred C. Smith from Lahore: "The Individual and Religion in the U.S.S.R." :—**

The individual is entirely at liberty, legally, to hold, without discrimination, any religious beliefs that he likes, though modern education, the general cultural atmosphere, and the arguments of his friends, may make some of those beliefs intellectually difficult to hold. In other words, he is allowed to hold religious views, but it is less probable that he will do so. Secondly, he is entirely at liberty to carry on any religious rites or practices that he may choose, provided that he does not thereby interfere with anyone else, and provided that he confines himself to wor-

shipping in a church, a mosque, or other specifically religious place, and confines himself to specifically religious practices. Paradoxical as it may sound, the Revolution brought to the people of the U.S.S.R. a new liberty in the religious as in so many other fields.

**K. H. Henderson from Lahore: "Behind the Lines—Morale" :—**

Rumour-mongers can either be active fifth columnists who definitely hope that the Axis Powers will win or people who like to show their importance by pretending to be "in the know" or frank gossips who cannot resist passing on with a few additions anything they may have heard. Of course they all specialize exclusively in tales of disaster for the simple reason that they have a safe answer to any contradiction. "Good news is always published," they say, "but bad news is always concealed." One can very well reply that if all the evil rumours which have been in circulation since the war began had turned out true, we should have lost the war years ago. To take one instance, more battleships have been sunk by the Germans according to them than have been in existence in the British Navy. We should be particularly on our guard against rumours emanating from educated people. Natural respect for education should by no means blind us to the fact that many persons of education like to show off and that good sense is not a necessary adjunct to good education.

**Dr. K. C. Khanna from Lahore: "China and its People—The Administrator" :—**

Up to 1912, China was governed by a monarch, and, although the monarch was autocratic, yet he could be dethroned if he was tyrannical, if the Ko Tao, the corps of supervisors, protested against his crimes. He appointed officials of various ranks to carry out the administration according to the ancient law and custom. And as learning was difficult and rare and the examinations to be passed were stiff, the choice was limited. The hierarchy of officials, commonly denoted by the Portuguese word 'mandarin' and distinguished by a peculiar cap and a long loose cloak, really consisted of nine grades, each rank being distinguished by its official regalia, a conspicuous part of which was a prescribed precious jewel worn at the apex of the official hat.

While the mandarins were appointed to provinces, villages and towns were mostly allowed to carry on their local government through local headmen and gentry. The mandarins were, however, isolated from the people. The civil mandarins were more important than the military mandarins as the Chinese were an essentially peace-loving people.

The income of the State obtained from high tolls and taxes was spent for the good of the people. The Emperor was the patron of agriculture, and the production of silk enjoyed the particular care of the Empress. The Chinese considered skilled work and labour in the field as the chief aim of existence. Marriage was as old as the State, and women had a high status in the home. Such is a simple picture of the old China as it continued through the centuries to well within our own times.



## WEIGHTS, MEASURES—COINAGE—GLOSSARY—POINTS ABOUT INDIA

### WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Weights and measures in India vary not only from district to district but also for different commodities.

The principal units in all the scales of weights are the maund, seer and tola, and the standard weights for each of these are 82.28 lbs., 2.057 lbs. and 180 grains troy respectively.

The Indian tola is the same weight as the rupee, viz., 180 grains troy; the standard or railway seer is equal to 2.057 lbs. while the standard or railway maund of 40 seers is equivalent to 82 lbs. 4 oz. 9 drams. There are numerous local variations.

### COINAGE—RUPEE IN DOLLARS AND POUNDS

Rs. 1 is approximately 1s. 6d. or 30.05 cents.

Rs. 100 are approximately £7/9/6 or \$30.05.

Rs. 1,000 are approximately £74/14/10 or \$300.53.

Rs. 1,00,000 (a lakh) are approximately £7,473/19/2 or \$30,053.

Rs. 1,00,00,000 (a crore) are approximately £747,395/16/8 or \$3,005,250.

100,000 is one lakh (1,00,000)

10,000,000 is one crore (1,00,00,000)

#### COINAGE

3 pies are 1 pice.

4 pice are 1 anna.

16 annas are 1 rupee.

### GLOSSARY OF SOME COMMON INDIAN TERMS

Kumar	~ A prince; Rajkumar, son of an Indian Raja.
Lascar	~ An Indian seaman; a sailor.
Madrasa	~ A Muslim High School.
Mahajan	~ A money-lender; a merchant.
Maulana	~ An erudite Muslim; a Muslim scholar.
Mazdoor	~ A labourer.
Mela	~ A fair; an exhibition.
Mistri	~ A mechanic; mason; carpenter or foreman.
Mofussil	~ The interior of a district or province as distinguished from the headquarters.
Moulvi	~ A learned person (Muslim).
Nawab	~ Muslim ruler or chief; a title.
Nawabzada	~ Son of a Nawab (zada, a son).
Paddy	~ Rice in the husk.
Panchayat	~ A committee for the management of the affairs of a village or a caste; theoretically the committee consists of five (panch) men.
Pandit (or Pundit)	~ A Hindu title, applied to a person versed in the Hindu scriptures. A Brahmin scholar.
Peon	~ Bearer; orderly.
Pir	~ A Muslim saint or religious teacher.
Pleader	~ A lawyer; a legal practitioner.
Pucca	~ Ripe; mature; cooked; made of brick (as applied to a house); regular; correct; proper; expert.
Puja	~ Worship ( <i>pujari</i> , a priest).
Purdah	~ A veil or curtain; the practice of keeping women in seclusion.
Raiyat (or Ryot)	~ A farmer; an agriculturist.
Sabha	~ Assembly; meeting.
Sadar	~ The headquarters of a district.
Sadhu	~ A Hindu ascetic.
Sanad	~ A charter or grant; a deed of grant.
Sannyasi	~ A Hindu ascetic or mendicant.
Sardar (or Sirdar)	~ Leader; headman; a Sikh title.
Sarkar (or Sircar)	~ A manager or accountant; the Government.
Satyagraha	~ Passive resistance (literally, insistence on or acceptance of truth).
Shroff	~ A Banker (commonly used in Bombay).
Swadesi	~ Of one's own country; made in India.
Tahsil (or Tehsil)	~ A revenue sub-division of a district. Hence "Tehsildar," the officer in charge of a tehsil.
Taluk	~ A revenue sub-division or holding; an estate. (Hence "Talukdar," one who holds a taluk).
Tola	~ A measure of weight (equivalent to 180 grains troy).
Vakil	~ An advocate; a lawyer.
Zemindar	~ A landholder. (Hence "Zemindari," an estate).
Zenana	~ Female; feminine; women's apartments.

### POINTS ABOUT INDIA

Viceroy—H. E. The Marquess of Linlithgow, K.T., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., O.B.E., D.L., T.D.



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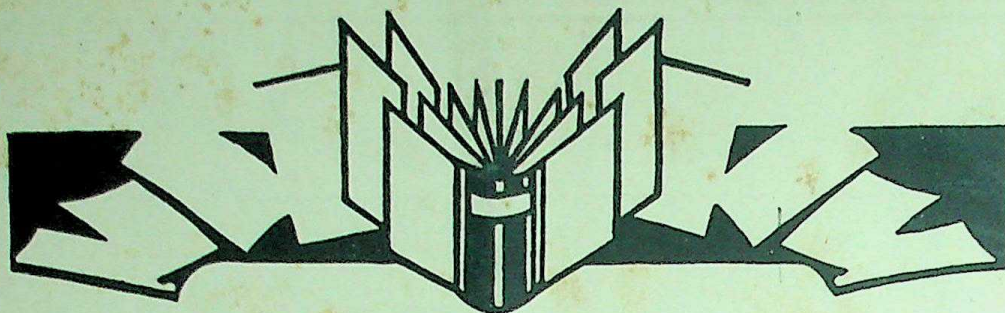
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# INDIAN INFORMATION



No. 105, December 1,  
Issued Fortnightly by the  
Information Officer,  
Government of India

GENERAL WAVELL VISITS INDIA'S EASTERN FRONTIER



## *They Said*

"If anything is certain, it is that the security of this country, and this Province, are in deadly peril from the Axis Powers. If they win, the conquered peoples have nothing to expect but ruthless domination. Is it not, therefore, wise—indeed, the only sane course—for us to cast aside mistrust and internal dissension and to combine against the common enemy in order to secure the fruits of victory—peace and liberty for us all?"—*H. E. Sir John Herbert, Governor of Bengal, September 14.*



"It is true that the Japanese promised you "freedom"—but like all Japanese or German promises they are not worth the paper upon which they are written. But how could Japan give freedom to anyone? It is something which they do not understand as the masses of Japan have never enjoyed freedom themselves. They have always been kept under the iron heel of military discipline—their Governments have been Governments of Generals and Admirals. They have always despised the sort of freedom which you so passionately desire."—*H. E. Sir Reginald Dorman-Smith, Governor of Burma, in a broadcast to Burma from Delhi, September 30.*



"The time is coming when we from India will be with you again to bring your final liberation. Till then, resist; refuse the enemy your help, obstruct his preparations for defence, destroy his communications and impede his supplies. United we shall destroy him and drive him from his temporary spoils."—*The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney, Member for Indians Overseas, in a message to Indians Overseas on Dusserah Day.*



"I am sure that all of you recognise the importance of winning the war. We have our own problems and political differences, but they all recede into the background when you consider the question of the war. Unless you win the war, you won't be in a position to call yours an independent country or a free country. The Fascist menace will affect you to the same extent as it will affect other races of the world. I would beg of you to concentrate on winning the war."—*The Hon'ble Sir J. P. Srivastava, Civil Defence Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council.*





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## INDIAN INFORMATION

December 1, 1942

INDIAN  
INFORMATION  
IS A  
REFERENCE  
RECORD

**AIMS** :—To provide a condensed record of the main peace and war activities of the Government of India, together with some outstanding facts about the British Government's war activities. INDIAN INFORMATION does not compete with the Press ; it exists for their convenience and is not intended for general circulation among the public.

**PUBLIC** :—All those persons and institutions whose general role is to inform the public, e.g., the public administrator, whether he be governmental (Central or Provincial), municipal, commercial, educational or institutional, the editor, the publisher, the journalist and the publicist.

**FORMAT** :—Headings, sub-titles and bold face passages are inserted to facilitate reading, but they should not in themselves necessarily be considered as expressions of official opinion or emphasis.

**CONTRIBUTIONS** :—Many MSS. are submitted to us which we regretfully return ; since everything published in INDIAN INFORMATION emanates from an official source, it follows that non-official contributions cannot be accepted.

Any Item May Be Reproduced Without Acknowledgment.

ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY BY J. NATARAJAN, PRINCIPAL INFORMATION OFFICER,  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA. ASSOCIATE EDITOR, CECILIE LESLIE.

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COVER PICTURE : OPEN AIR CLASS  
IN A PUNJAB VILLAGE SCHOOL  
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BRIDGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION



## ♦ FACTS AND FIGURES ♦

In the munitions field, output in India is many times pre-war capacity. Six times the pre-war output of rifles, eight times of machine-guns, ten times of bayonets, twenty-four times of gun ammunition and nine times of guns and gun carriages, are a few of the new production figures. To enable these increases more than Rs. 7,00,00,000 have been spent on expansion projects and a further Rs. 16,00,00,000 expansion scheme is already in hand. New types of shell, including 25-pdr., 3.7" anti-aircraft, various types of armour-piercing anti-tank shells and new types of guns, including the 3.7" anti-aircraft gun are regularly in production.

The Russians have brought a "new weapon" into use at Stalingrad. It is the 15-year-old U-2 plane, formerly used as postal transport, made of wood and canvas and with a speed of little more than 50 miles an hour.

In Indian ports hundreds of men are trained every week in the handling of guns and automatic weapons mounted in merchant ships to protect them against attack by the enemy. This training is given by officers and higher gunnery ratings of the Royal Indian Navy and by N.C.O.'s of the Royal Marines.

Turkey is the third largest chrome-producing country after Russia and South Africa, its production reaching the 200,000 tons a year mark.

The percentage of loss to the Posts and Telegraphs Department due to thefts, fraud, etc. to the total turnover in 1940-41 was the microscopic figure of .0009. The corresponding figure for the United Kingdom was .004.

A new specialised American troop unit, nicknamed "Swimmandos," is training for attack in river areas.

The names of civilians in India who become victims of enemy attack are to be commemorated by the Imperial War Graves Commission. The Commission, which was established in Britain during the last War, was originally concerned with the commemoration of members of His Majesty's Forces who gave their lives and of whom the greater number fell in foreign lands. For more than 20 years it has helped to keep their names a living memory. Now that war takes its toll of the non-combatant population as well, the Commission has been charged with a new duty—that of collecting the names of all civilians who become victims of enemy attack, so that their memory also may be preserved, for all time, side by side with those of the Fighting Services.

Five hundred war-time nurseries, caring for 25,000 children of women factory workers, are in operation in Britain and a further 700 are in process of organisation.

On an average, India produces nearly 100 lakh tons of wheat per year, consumes nearly 99 lakh tons, which leaves a small balance to meet the requirements of other provinces. In addition, India produces 264 lakh tons of rice as against the normal consumption of 278 lakh tons which means a deficit of 14 lakh tons which used to be met by imports from Burma.

A mobile canteen, dedicated to Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret Rose by "sympathetic friends of all nationalities in New York," has been presented at their request to the London borough of Chelsea.

In 1941-42, the increase of ton miles on the Broad Gauge system on the Indian railways over the last pre-war year represents an increase of 28 per cent. In passenger traffic there has been an increase of 3,139 million passenger miles as compared with 1938-39, or 700 million compared with the previous peak year, in spite of the fact that public passenger services have been reduced to some 70 per cent of the pre-war figure.

An American Airlines School to train civilians to navigate cargo planes all over the world has been established in co-operation with U.S. Army Air Forces.

By converting 600 motor vehicles to producer gas, it has been computed that it is possible to save one million gallons of petrol per year. With charcoal selling at Rs. 2-12-0 per maund, a bus or a lorry, converted to producer gas and running about 2,000 miles per month, can show a saving of Rs. 200 per month. Such a vehicle running for this mileage at 12 miles per gallon on petrol, or one gallon per day when working on producer gas, saves the country about 140 gallons of petrol a month, or 1,680 gallons per year.

Twenty women members of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem (now working in association with the Red Cross) have received decorations from the hands of Queen Elizabeth for bravery during air raids. They came from London, Coventry, Southampton, Portsmouth and Belfast.

Men-of-war like those that fought in the European conflicts were built and repaired in India as long ago as the 17th century. In one port the site of the dockyard was chosen by the first of a distinguished line of Parsi shipbuilders 200 years ago, and in it were constructed warships both for India and the Royal Navy.

Over half a million trade unionists in the Chicago area have joined a labour drive to raise \$80,000 for Russian war relief.

A new use for detoluated benzol obtained from India's toluene industry as a solvent in processing rubber replaces oil previously obtained from the oilfields. The importance of this discovery lies in the fact that every gallon of solvent oil drawn from the oilfields decreased production by two potential gallons of aviation spirit. Increasing new uses for coconut oil as a substitute for sperm oil in certain operations connected with munitions manufacture have also been found, displacing an average import of nearly 9,000 gallons of sperm oil.

The United States is providing lend-lease aid at the rate of approximately \$8,000,000,000 a year. At present, about 35 per cent of all lend-lease exports are going to the United Kingdom, 35 per cent to the U.S.S.R., and 30 per cent to the Middle East, Australia, and other areas.

In India there is one trained nurse to every 55,093 of the population.

Britain is spending more on pensions and allowances to the war injured and bereaved in proportion to the population than any other country engaged in the last war. Nearly £1,400,000,000 has been paid in this way and expenditure is still going on at the rate of £37,000,000 a year.

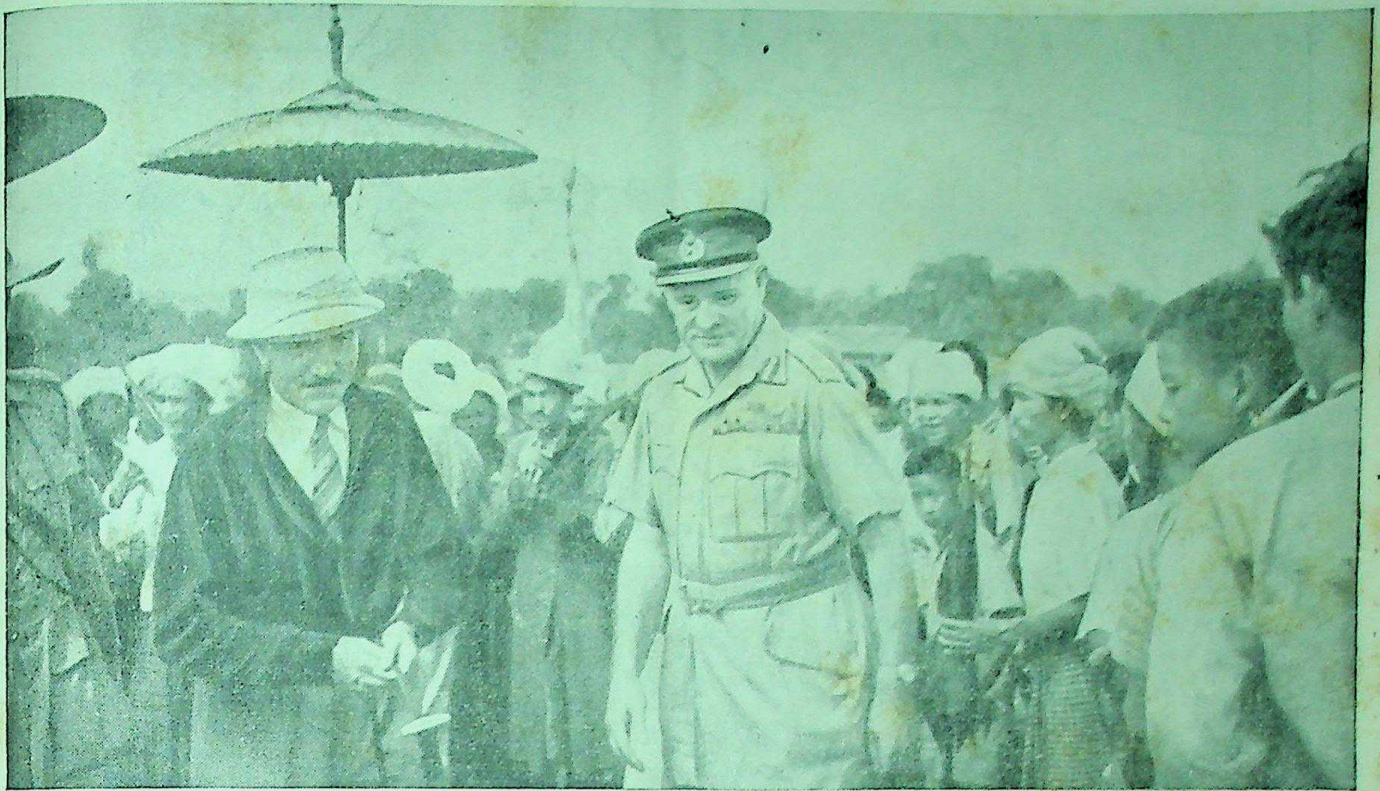
The grand total of subscriptions to all Indian Defence Loans since they were first issued in June, 1940, up to October 3, 1942, is Rs. 1,25,48,57,000. (These figures do not include subscriptions to the 3 per cent loan, 1963-65, opened on October 3, 1942.)

Four important trade agreements between the United States and Brazil have been signed in Rio de Janeiro. Under the terms of the pact, the United States has agreed to purchase from Brazil \$15,000,000 worth of coffee; \$11,000,000 worth of cocoa; \$300,000 worth of nuts and an unspecified amount of manufactured rubber products.

The American shipbuilding industry will add nearly 500,000 workers within the next year. Employment in this industry, which was once less than 100,000, has already passed 1,000,000.

A medical unit consisting of a hospital of 200 beds, and a staff of seven physicians and surgeons has been sent to China under the auspices of the Red Cross. The unit is co-operating with the Chinese Red Cross and the British Fund for the Relief of Distress in China.





GENERAL WAVELL, WHO RECENTLY CROSSED THE BURMA BORDER, WAS WELCOMED BY A BURMESE POTENTATE ON BURMESE SOIL

## GENERAL WAVELL VISITS INDO-BURMA FRONT

**D**etachments of troops, Indian, British and Gurkha, keeping watch far up in the jungle and mountain fastnesses of the northern sector of the Indo-Burma Frontier, received an unexpected tonic early in the second week of October when General Wavell's sturdy figure suddenly appeared among them.

Paying his fourth visit to the Eastern Frontier since he met the Burma Army after General Alexander's forces had successfully crossed the river Chindwin, the Commander-in-Chief's outlook was definitely "Forward." No longer was it a question of disposing forces to guard the mountainous, rain-drenched land routes into north-east India, or by active patrolling to keep watch on enemy movements.

General Wavell's activities were a practical illustration of his recent statement that the reoccupation of Burma is now foremost in his mind.

### A Smile And A Handshake

Sometimes travelling by air, escorted by Royal Air Force fighter pilots, sometimes on land by car, rail or on foot, the Commander-in-Chief penetrated far forward, heartening men who have kept a long and lonely vigil in wild malaria-blighted country. A smile, a handshake and swift, pointed questions as to health and needs were followed by queries as to what the country was like still farther forward and stimulating instructions to increase reconnaissance still deeper into Burma.

The tonic effect of these questions and of General Wavell's close inspection was immediately apparent among officers and men.

A few miles from the Burma border, high up on a mountain track, the Commander-in-Chief hung the Order of British India around the neck of a veteran Gurkha Subedar Major. As he walked through the little hut, making do as a field hospital, the depression of malaria left the patients, who sat up eagerly with bright eyes and broad smiles.

On Burma soil itself, which the Japanese recently asserted General Wavell would never see again except as a prisoner of war, the Commander-in-Chief suddenly appeared amongst a thrilled detachment of his Indian Army.

### Presentation Of "Dah"

The news spread like wildfire and, within 20 minutes, the local Burmese potentate appeared in full procession, replete with elephants, a gilt-helmeted bodyguard and a "court jester," proudly twisting a bright green moustache! An animated series of complimentary speeches was followed by the presentation to General Wavell of a *dah* encased in an elaborate red and gold scabbard and a pathetically earnest request for help against the starvation with which Japanese oppression now threatened them.

Hundreds of these eager simple people crowded around with a pathetic look of trusting hope in their eyes as General Wavell, through an interpreter, assured them that everything possible would be done for them as soon as practicable, and then with a smile and a wave bade them *au revoir*.

### At Forward Posts

At forward posts, General Wavell studied large-scale maps and cross-examined individual officers who for many weeks have been pushing in ones or twos far into Burma through trackless forests, reconnoitring the country with its torrents, mountains and jungles.

These men had many strange stories to tell and much invaluable information as to new, unknown routes through North-West Burma.

Farther back General Wavell visited forward Headquarters of brigades and divisions, and inspected numerous improvisations which units of all arms have developed to carry back into Burma equipment of a type and on a scale far more appropriate than that which the Burma Army had to leave demolished east of the Chindwin.

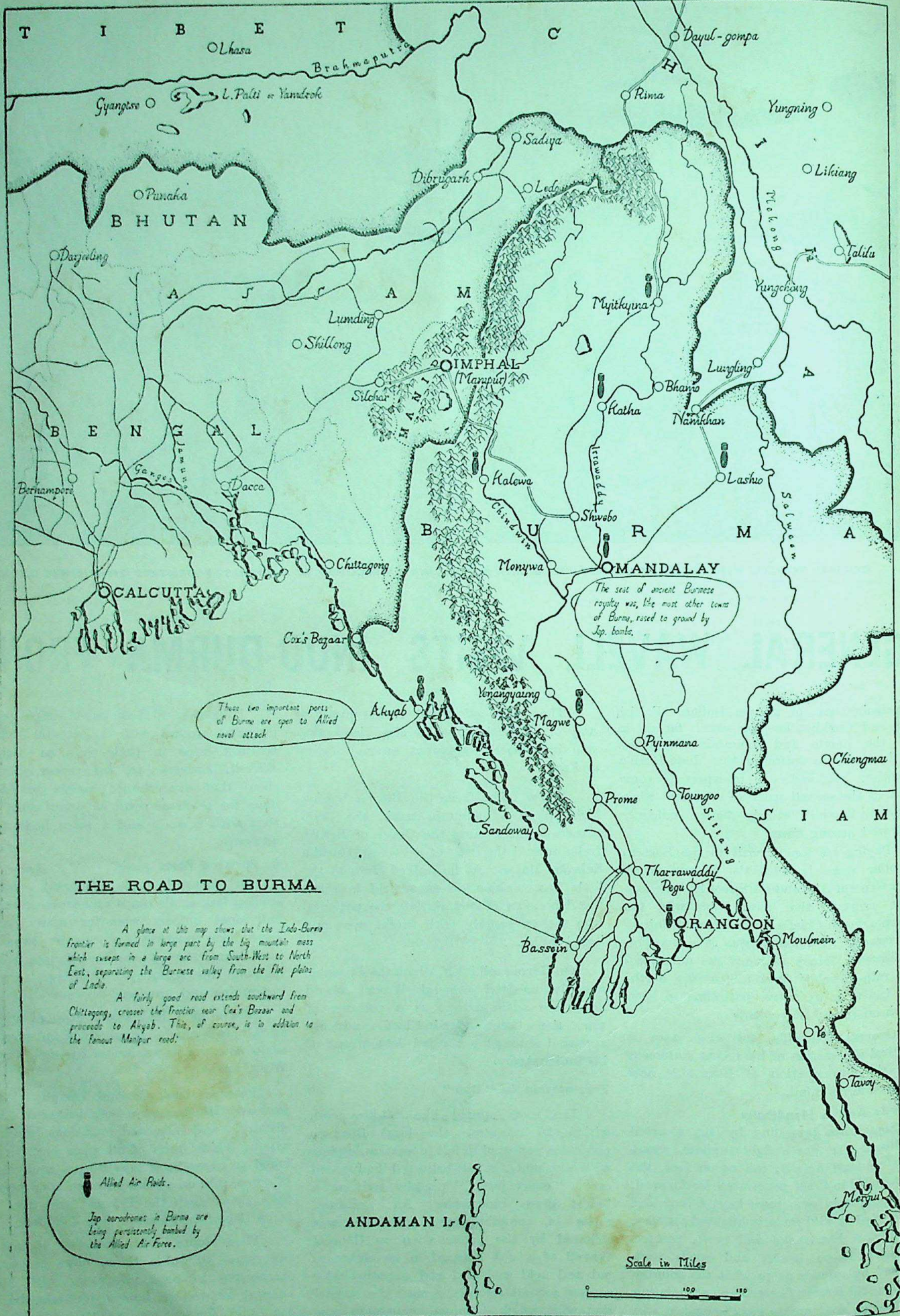
These units, with valuable if bitter experience to guide them, have prepared themselves to cope effectively with any natural as well as human obstacle, be it mountain, forest, river or Jap.

[ CONTINUED ON PAGE 357 ]



# INDO-BURMA FRONT

"Ever since the loss of Burma I have been planning its reoccupation." — General Sir Archibald Wavell



## THE ROAD TO BURMA

A glance at this map shows that the Indo-Burma frontier is formed in large part by the big mountain mass which sweeps in a large arc from South-West to North-East, separating the Burmese valley from the flat plains of India.

A fairly good road extends southward from Chittagong, crosses the frontier near Cox's Bazaar and proceeds to Akyab. This, of course, is in addition to the famous Manipur road.

Allyed Air Force.

Jap aerodromes in Burma are being persistently bombed by the Allied Air Force.

ANDAMAN I.

Scale in Miles

0 100 150

W.N.R. No. 134





THE BURMESE CHIEF GREETS GENERAL SIR ARCHIBALD WAVELL, INDIA'S COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, ON HIS ARRIVAL

## GENERAL WAVELL VISITS INDO-BURMA FRONT

[ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 355 ]

Training to "live on the country" so far as possible, in order to lighten the burden of the soldier, has included a reversion by British and Indian troops to primitive lore—to drawing on nature to help them along. They have learned to make ropes, bridges, river boats and so forth with amazing speed out of the simplest materials to be found on the spot.

Everyone the Commander-in-Chief, directed the eyes of his Commanders forward from their monsoon positions. Brief as his visit was, he left behind him a new stimulus to coincide with the improving weather and a general feeling that the hardships and privations undergone during the monsoon and the daily intensifying training would be rewarded by action at the right moment.

## PLANS TO HELP REFUGEES FROM BURMA

Steps are well in hand to meet the situation which may arise if there is a further influx of refugees from Burma into India after the monsoon. It is impossible to estimate how many more evacuees from Burma are likely to come into India during the next few months, or indeed whether any more evacuees will arrive at all, but the authorities feel that they should be prepared for all eventualities.

Staffs of workers will, therefore, be available at convenient centres for some weeks to

come, ready to move at a moment's notice and to undertake relief work in any area where they can be of assistance to refugees. Arrangements are in train for the provision

of supplies and transport, and it is hoped that the organisation created will be able to tackle any situation that may arise.



Members of the bodyguard of the Burmese Tribal Chief who accorded a warm welcome to General Sir Archibald Wavell when he arrived in Burma

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 1, 1942





H. E. THE MARQUESS OF LINLITHGOW, VICEROY OF INDIA

## VICEROY ON BALUCHISTAN'S PART IN FIGHT AGAINST AGGRESSION

**"M**y time in India is drawing to an end—in a few months now I hand over to my successor. Let me say how great a pleasure it has been to me before the close of my Viceroyalty to have been able to visit Baluchistan, to see for myself the progress of reconstruction here, and the invaluable contribution that the province is making to the prosecution of the war," said His Excellency the Viceroy replying to the addresses of welcome presented to him by the Shahi Jirga and the Municipal Committee at Quetta on October 22, 1942. The gathering included Sir Aubrey Metcalfe, Resident and Chief Commissioner in Baluchistan.

His Excellency continued: "I am most grateful for the reception which you have given me, and I am delighted that I have at last had the opportunity, to which I have looked forward for so long, of visiting Baluchistan and the city of Quetta. I thank you, members of the Shahi Jirga, leaders and representatives of the tribes of Baluchistan, for your kind words of welcome, and for your loyal assurances. You have

given practical expression to your loyalty in the co-operation which you have extended to the local administration, not only by maintaining peace and order among your tribes, but also by producing recruits for the Camel Corps, labour for defence works and additional levies for the protection of Government property and installations. I fully appreciate your concern that the natural resources of Baluchistan should be developed to the greatest extent, and indeed it would be in the interests not only of this Province, but of the rest of India too, if it were possible to make full use of its mineral wealth, and in particular of its coal. I assure you that this matter shall have the close attention of my Government. I hope too, that with a view to increasing the self-sufficiency of this area, the importance of increasing the production of food crops will not be forgotten, within the limits prescribed by the facilities for irrigation.

### Contribution To War Effort

"I deeply appreciate the contribution which under your guidance the people of

Baluchistan have made and are making to the war effort of India, and not least, at this time especially, by the steadiness and sturdy commonsense with which they have refused to allow the internal peace and order which prevails in this Province to be disturbed.

"I am grateful to you, members of the Quetta Municipal Committee, for your cordial welcome. I well know the difficulties which have faced you in recent years; first from the effects of the great earthquake, then the war and now the interruption of communications caused by this summer's floods in Sind.

"You are entitled not only to sympathy but to admiration too, for the energy and imagination with which you have grappled with this succession of problems, and I am glad to learn that your handling of the supply arrangements and the rationing of essential commodities has not been without success. I need not assure you that I shall continue to watch the position with keen personal interest, and shall give such assistance as I can to your efforts to obtain what you require from outside.

"You have reason to congratulate yourselves on the remarkable figures which you have quoted of Baluchistan's financial contribution to the war effort. Part of your contribution has taken very tangible and practical shape as armoured carriers, and I deeply appreciate the steady support which my War Purposes Fund continues to receive from this Province.

### A.R.P. Services

"I appreciate, too, the helpful attitude of the Municipal Committee towards the measures which have to be taken for air raid precautions. I am glad of the opportunity which I have just had of inspecting your A.R.P. Services: they are a workmanlike body of men and women and I know that should the need arise for them to put into practice all that they have learnt during their long months of training and preparation, they will amply prove their worth.

"I know the difficulties in recruiting and training such services in an area where the population is to a great extent migratory, but I would like to express my keen appreciation of what has been achieved, and to say that the citizens of Quetta owe a debt of gratitude to these public-spirited men and women who have given up their leisure to prepare themselves for the defence of the lives and property of their fellows. It is an example which deserves not only praise and gratitude, but emulation, and there are still many among your fellow-citizens who could afford to join their ranks, and vie with them in their enthusiasm and their determination to contribute their utmost to the winning of the war.

"This is a war of all the people, of every man, woman and child, in whatever walk of life, however far from the battle zone. Let each one of you remember that your individual effort, added to the joint effort of the many millions of the people of the United Nations can shorten the war by bringing nearer the triumph of our arms, by a day, an hour, a minute. There is not a moment to be lost: for in modern warfare, which is total war, the hastening of victory by a day or an hour may mean the saving of hundreds or thousands of lives.

### National War Front

"The National War Front, which is gaining so steadily in strength throughout India, is a front on which you can all fight. Scotch idle rumour and scorn the insidious and lying propaganda of the enemy. Build up a strong bulwark in your hearts of confidence and resolution. Take courage

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 359, COL. 3]

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 1, 1942



## DEFENCE

### TASK OF THE ACK-ACK MEN

**A**round the towns, docks, airfields and industrial centres of India barrels point like steely fingers into the sky, for the slender, sinister anti-aircraft guns are at action stations.

Today many of the towns of India are within bombing range of Japanese aircraft. This does not necessarily mean that they will be bombed, but it does not pay to take chances with a treacherous enemy, so the Ack-Ack men must be on the alert night and day.

When the Swastika swarmed over Britain's skies, three types of anti-aircraft artillery sent up a defiant roar—4.5s, 3.7s and the 40mm. Q.F. Bofors. Today all these types are in India.

#### "Big Brother Of Ack-Ack Family"

First meet the 4.5, so called because the diameter of the bore measures four-and-a-half inches. This is a big brother of the Ack-Ack family. Its shell can travel further than that propelled by any other anti-aircraft gun, and the destructive range of the burst is greater than that of any other anti-aircraft shell.

The men who have been into action with 4.5s naturally claim that they have the best gun, but if a popularity vote were taken among all Ack-Ack men, the 3.7 would be an easy winner. The principal advantage is that it is mobile, and can be moved quickly from place to place in order to meet any threatened attack from the air. With an effective range very little shorter than that of the 4.5, it has a higher rate of fire. Hundreds of Axis aircraft have fallen to 3.7s.

Now meet "junior," the hard-hitting little Bofors, terror of the dive-bombers. By comparison with the bigger guns, the highly-mobile Bofors looks almost toy-like, but there is nothing make-believe about its performance.

The heavier guns fight their battles at a respectable distance, but the Bofors specialise in the free-for-all kind of rough-and-tumble which ends only when one or other of the parties is crippled.

To the danger of bombs is added a stream of lead from spitting cannon and machine-guns when the Bofors go into action, but in fairness to these game little guns it must be said that they usually have the last word—and in Ack-Ack they live longest who fire last.

Having become acquainted with the "piece"—to artillery-men any gun is a piece—let us take a look at the shells, or to be more technical, the projectiles.

The 4.5s and 3.7s, which are classified as "heavy" guns, fire a projectile which requires a time fuse to explode it in the air. The split-second in which the projectile must go off in order to be effective against the target is determined by complicated instruments known as predictors and height-finders.



AN INDIAN ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNNER AND OBSERVER ON THE LOOK-OUT FOR RAIDERS

The Bofors often dispenses with these scientific methods of shooting, and relies upon the skill of its highly-trained layers, plus a tremendous fire power of 120 rounds a minute, or two shells every second, to obtain a direct hit on the target. Working on this principle, the projectile has a percussion fuse, which means that it explodes immediately on contact with the target.

To allay the fears of the nervous, who may visualise thousands of unexploded shells coming down and going off on the ground during barrage fire, it should be added that a self-destructing mechanism ensures the destruction of the shell in the air if it does not come into contact with the target.

#### A Versatile Job

Now meet the men who man the Ack-Ack guns. They have one of the most versatile jobs in all the army's vast employment field. One week they will be firing their guns in the centre of a big city, and a few days later they may be hundreds of miles away, fighting in the wilds with some forward unit. In the latter circumstances they may play a dual role, for it has been discovered that Ack-Ack guns, and more

particularly the quick-firing Bofors, acquit themselves quite well at tank "shoots."

To their various land duties have now been added the vast expanses of the oceans, for, as recently announced by the War Office, special Maritime A.A. Regiments are protecting our convoys. From the heaving decks of merchant ships the soldiers who go to sea are fighting their guns with the same determination that they display on land.

#### VICEROY'S SPEECH AT QUETTA

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 358]

from the certainties which are before your eyes. We have been swimming against a strong current, but the tide is surely turning now. At one time we fought alone, but look now at the great peoples and armies of our Allies who are by our side: the people of the United States, of Russia, of China, and many others. Consider the mighty armaments which we are accumulating day by day and with which we shall soon outstrip and overwhelm the enemy. He is still strong and formidable, but he is becoming desperate, and his days are numbered. His strength is the strength of ruthlessness, oppression, cruelty and treachery, but our strength is the strength of all free men, and our cause is just.

"Hold on then, grimly and with determination. Put every ounce of your strength, of body and mind, into a supreme effort, and you will find that the day is not far distant when we, with our Allies, shall sweep forward like an irresistible flood which will drown deep the forces of evil and wash the memory of their foulness for ever from the earth.

"My time in India is drawing to an end—in a few months now I hand over to my successor. Let me say how great a pleasure it has been to me before the close of my Viceroyalty to have been able to visit Baluchistan, to see for myself the progress of reconstruction here, and the invaluable contribution that the Province is making to the prosecution of the war."

#### PICTURES OF JAPANESE OCCUPIED TERRITORY

The result of the recent appeal from the Army for pictures, including holiday snaps, taken in Burma, Malaya and other occupied Far Eastern countries has been most successful. Besides photographs, a number of guide books and maps has also been received and these are proving extremely valuable.

Apparently the source is not yet exhausted as the Chief of the General Staff at General Headquarters, New Delhi, is still receiving pictures from the general public in most encouraging numbers.



## DEFENCE

### HIGHER SALARIES FOR AIRMEN IN I.A.F.

Service in the Indian Air Force has now become even more attractive with the news that considerable increases in the rates of pay of airmen have been sanctioned by the Government of India.

These new rates of pay, which have effect from July 1, have been devised further to attract the educated boys of good families from the colleges. Formerly, pay on entering the I.A.F. was Rs. 30 per month; now this has been doubled to Rs. 60 per month for recruits selected for training in skilled trades and to Rs. 40 per month for unskilled. There are other increases all round according to rank and trade. These rates increase as a trainee makes progress and passes his trade tests.

#### Additional Advantages

The new rates of pay are about equal to those paid in civilian jobs for men of similar age and attainments. But it should be noted that the serviceman gets such additional advantages as free rations, uniform, accommodation, medical attention, railway travel when going on leave, sports and pastimes.

An airman's pay, of course, varies according to the trade for which the recruit is selected for training. Trades are classed in groups and these trade groups signify the amount of skill required in performing work in connection with aircraft.

For example, the trades in Group I are of a highly skilled nature—fitters, radio mechanics, metal workers, instrument makers and so on. They are open only to those airmen who have successfully completed the training course for Group II, the trades in which correspond to those in Group I, though less skilled.

After a trainee has been in Group II for some time he may be selected, if he has done well, for further training which will qualify him for Group I, in which the minimum pay is Rs. 75 and everything found.

#### Trade Test

On completion of training all candidates receive a trade test and are then re-classified as aircraftmen second class, first class or leading aircraftmen according to the percentage of marks received. They then receive pay according to their new classification.

Life in the Indian Air Force is a life free from the ordinary worries of civil life. There are no barriers of class, caste or community. Airmen who show ability and powers of leadership are selected for commissions from time to time. It is not a matter of seniority, but they may be selected at any time in their careers.

#### For Married Officers

A large number of airmen have been commissioned and many more are being taken into the commissioned ranks. Increased rates of pay have also been

[ CONTINUED ON PAGE 367 ]



INDIAN AIR FORCE OFFICERS PLOT THEIR COURSE BEFORE TAKING OFF

### INDIAN PILOT'S IMPRESSIONS OF RAIDS OVER FRANCE

Recently back from Great Britain, Flying Officer R. S. Shahi of Lahore, one of the 24 Indian pilots who volunteered two years ago for service overseas, gives a vivid account of bombing raids he participated in, over Brest and Dunkirk.

Giving his impressions of the first daylight raid on Brest and the bombing of the German battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*—nicknamed Salmon and Gluckstein by the R.A.F., Flying Officer Shahi, who was co-pilot of his bomber, says: "We were one of a large force of British planes. As we approached the target we could see Stirlings and Halifaxes already bombing the warships. Our fighter escort was intercepted by German fighters and dog-fights broke out all around us.

"The anti-aircraft barrage was said to be the heaviest that had ever been met over this target. But we passed through it, in formation, dropped our bombs at the exact moment pre-arranged for our aircraft

and came away, still in formation, from the target. I looked down and could see smoke coming from one of the ships. The photographs which we took showed that our bombs had hit their mark.

"This was my second raid and although I felt a little nervous of my first experience of bombing, on this occasion I felt quite tranquil; in fact, I can only describe it as being rather good fun! I feel proud about this raid, particularly because my Captain won a bar to his D.F.C."

Flying Officer Shahi's first operation was a night raid on the docks at Dunkirk.

"It was a grand night with the moon at the full," he says. "We could see the German searchlights as we crossed the English coast, and great quantities of flak. The searchlights were so brilliant and there was so much light caused by the coloured flak that I thought at first that Dunkirk had no black-out!

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 1, 1942



## DEFENCE

"We were the last aircraft over the target and were caught in a cone of search-lights. Our tail gunner then reported that a fighter was behind us and we took sharp evasive action, diving down and making out to sea. We made a second run in and this time dropped our bombs and got away safely."

### A Narrow Escape

"In the Brest raid," says F/O Shahi, "we came back with eleven holes in our fuselage, tail plane and wings, and our navigator had a narrow escape. In the Dunkirk raid our aircraft was holed in seven places."

During his 19 months in Great Britain, F/O Shahi, who was formerly with Indian National Airways and an instructor to the North India Flying Club, had experience in flying in the latest types of Royal Air Force bombers including the Lancaster, of which he spoke enthusiastically. The crew of the Lancaster in which he was Captain included a Canadian navigator and a New Zealand air-gunner.

Flying Officer Shahi is enthusiastic about the kindness shown to him and the other Indian pilots in Great Britain.

"Everywhere we went, invitations were showered upon us. One of our outstanding memories is the visit we paid to Windsor Castle where we had tea with Their Majesties the King and Queen.

"We were so kindly treated at all the R.A.F. stations and by the many people outside the Service whom we met that we were never allowed to feel that we were so far away from home.

"Twice I was entertained to lunch at the House of Lords and I also visited the House of Commons. There and everywhere we went it was the same, people could not do enough for us.

### Another Impression

"Another impression I have brought back to India is the welcome I received in the R.A.F. Squadrons. I am exceedingly proud to have served with the Straits Settlements Squadron and shall always remember the brotherly feeling among its members, who included Britishers, New Zealanders, Canadians and Australians. I was the only Indian."

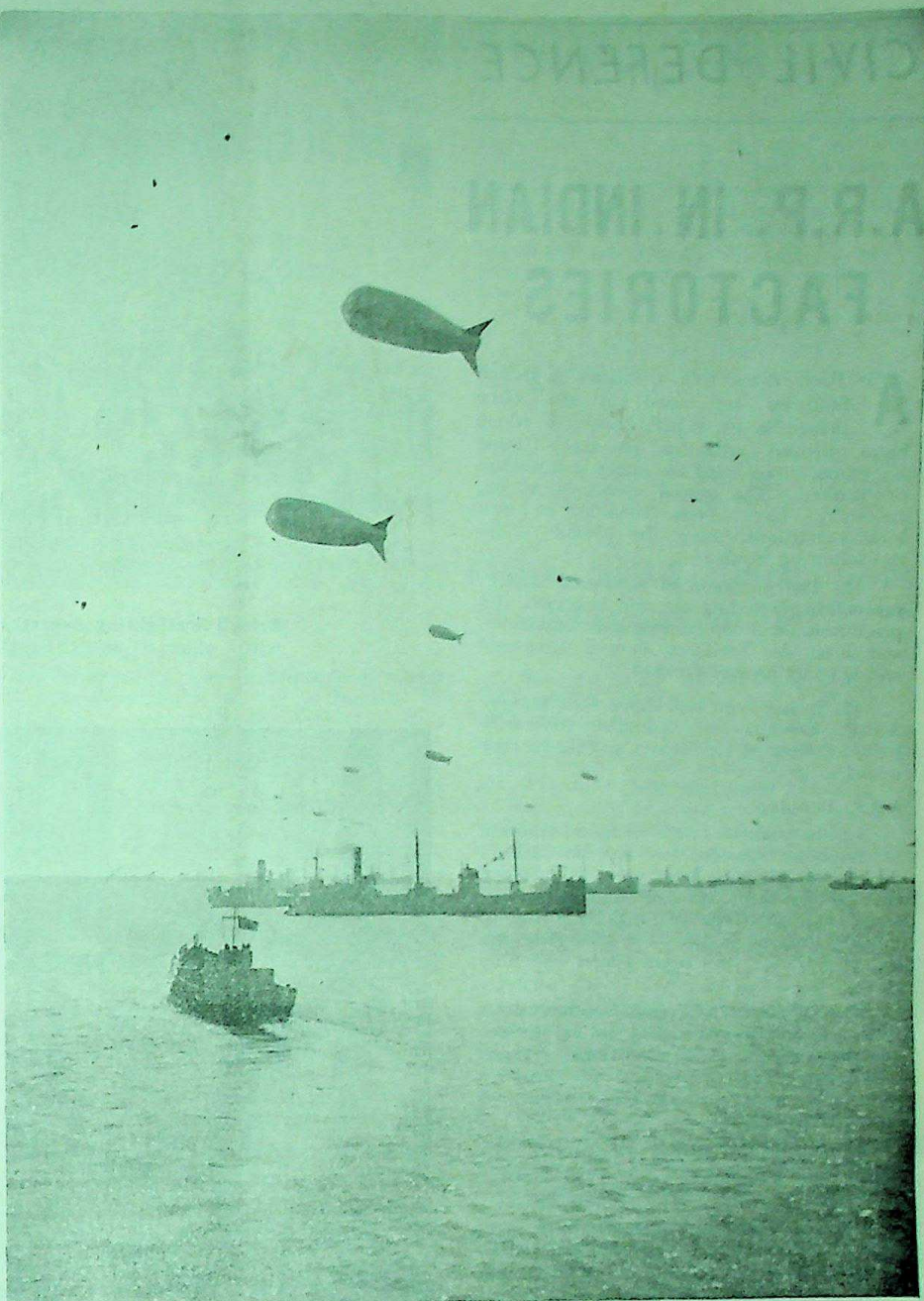
One of F/O Shahi's regrets is that he had been recalled to India and was on his way back when his squadron made the famous daylight raid on Augsburg.

F/O Shahi, who joined the I.A.F. in August 1940, is now with an operational squadron in India.

### KILLED IN FLYING ACCIDENT

It is announced by Air Headquarters, India, that Squadron Leader Henry Runganathan was killed in a flying accident in India on October 3, last.

Squadron Leader Runganathan, whose father is Adviser to the Secretary of State for India, was one of India's ace pilots and commanded No. 1 Squadron, Indian Air Force.



**Barrage Balloons** which have been protecting Britain's convoys, ports and towns against low-level enemy air attacks, are now a familiar sight in India, too

## BARRAGE BALLOONS PROTECT INDIA'S COASTAL CITIES AND SHIPPING

**C**oastal and other important towns and cities of India and Ceylon are now protected against possible dive-bombing and low-level attacks by the setting up of balloon barrages. At some centres the balloons have already become familiar objects, and during the next few weeks barrages will be seen floating over other vital spots in India.

Royal Air Force officers and men engaged in the balloon barrages in India come from some of the cream of the Balloon Squadrons who have been on duty in the United Kingdom throughout the three years of war. One Squadron is composed of personnel drawn from the London Barrage. In every case the barrages now in being in India are manned by the most highly trained R.A.F. personnel.

Plans are being developed for the introduction of Indian Army officers and men into the balloon service, and shortly Indian servicemen and Britishers will be working side by side in manning the barrages.

Shipping round the Indian coasts is also being protected by balloons. Merchant Service skippers of North Sea convoys have long appreciated the great value of balloon protection against low-level attacks, and the system of balloon and gun protection, in which the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force co-operate, is now being extended to Indian coastal shipping.

### Japanese Surprised

It is now generally recognised that the barrage balloon is one of the most successful defensive weapons of air warfare. During

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 33]



## CIVIL DEFENCE

# A.R.P. IN INDIAN FACTORIES

**A**ir Raid Precaution measures in Indian factories are based on the same principles as A.R.P. measures which have proved effective in the United Kingdom, in ensuring the safety and welfare of workers. The actual measures which, naturally, have been modified to suit local conditions, may be placed under the following heads :—

(1) The provision of structural A.R.P. protection (including air raid shelters), fire precaution and fire prevention measures, and First Aid facilities, is well advanced and is being pressed forward.

(2) It has been laid down that factory A.R.P. Services are intended *primarily* for the defence of the factory and the factory workers.

### A.R.P. Training

(3) In addition to the technical training of Squads required for specific A.R.P. duties, the principle has been laid down that all Factory personnel should receive some regular form of A.R.P. training, outside working hours. For this they are to be paid at the appropriate overtime rates.

(4) Allowances and remissions of various kinds are being introduced to counteract hardships due to war conditions. These include payment of bonuses or dearness allowances, and provision for pensions or disability payments.

(5) Stocks of essential foodstuffs, etc., are being laid in at factories to guard against any possible breakdown in normal supplies.

(6) The evacuation of families of workers from threatened areas has been permitted, in the interval before air raids develop, and facilities are being provided.

(7) Factories have been advised to establish a news service for their workers (by means of bulletins pasted on notice boards and the use of loud-speakers) to dispel ignorant or malicious rumours.

### Air Raid Shelters

All factories in areas where air raids could occur are being provided with shelters for the full number of persons who might be in the factory during a raid. These shelters consist of open zigzag trenches, either sunk in the ground or where necessary raised above the surface, or sometimes, where there is no room for trenches, of brick-built shelters with reinforced concrete roofs, built close to the factory buildings.

Concrete roofs have been provided for brick-built shelters to protect the workmen against falling bits of brick or concrete if the factory building is hit. There is no need for a concrete roof over a trench, as trenches are narrow and are always sited well away from buildings. Brick-built shelters are designed to be just as safe as slit trenches. Workmen are trained to keep entrances to shelters free of any rubbish.

### Training Of Personnel

All factory workers are to have regular training in taking cover, evacuation to shelters, shelter discipline, fire prevention,



British fire-fighting experts, who recently arrived in India, photographed with officers of the Civil Defence Department at Bombay



U. K. fire officers arriving for a luncheon arranged in their honour at Bombay by the Civil Defence Department of the Government of India

control of incendiary bombs, etc. Practice in dealing with incendiary bombs and fires, it is considered, will be extremely valuable to workers at home as well as at the factory.

Factory workers are to be trained outside working hours for brief periods, the men being paid at the appropriate overtime rates for the periods spent in training. The cost is to be treated as A.R.P. revenue expenditure in assessing profits for taxation purposes. "It is not necessary," said a recent letter issued by the Labour Department "to aim at a high standard of technical proficiency; the emphasis should be rather on explaining the efficiency of measures taken for the safety and welfare of labour, on developing discipline, and building up morale.

"If full value is to be obtained from the training, it is very necessary that all members of the factory personnel should take part, including office and senior administrative staff. As far as possible, training should take the form of teamwork, each team having its own leader."

In most factories, frequent practice evacuations to the shelters are held. When the siren sounds, the workman is expected to go, quickly but quietly, to his own place in his own shelter, as previously arranged and rehearsed, and to stay in the shelter until permitted to leave by the Shelter Warden. The heavy casualties at Rangoon were mainly due to the fact that large numbers of persons left their shelters prematurely. Workmen are also instructed to space themselves out evenly along the whole length of the shelter, squat down, keep their heads low and not to lean against the sides of the shelter.

Finally, it is impressed on workers that frequent practice evacuations, A.R.P. rehearsals and tests are not a danger signal, indicating that raids are immediately expected, but merely a sign that necessary preparations are being made. The workman's safety depends on the smooth and efficient operation of the A.R.P. scheme when the time comes.



# SIR REGINALD DORMAN-SMITH AFFIRMS BRITISH RESOLVE TO RETAKE BURMA

Plans for the re-building of Burma have been discussed by the British War Cabinet and are now being worked out in detail by the Government of Burma. This statement was made on September 30, 1942, in a broadcast from Delhi, in A.I.R.'s Far Eastern Service, to Burma by the Governor, Sir Reginald Dorman-Smith, who recently flew to England to discuss the future of Burma with Mr. Churchill and the War Cabinet. Just as British military commanders are making their plans to throw the Japanese out of Burma, said Sir Reginald, so on the civilian side there are plans to re-build the life of Burma and to restore happiness to her people.

Asking the Burmese people to look around them and see what sort of freedom the Japanese have given them, Sir Reginald said that even some of the Thakin Party who had supported Japan now have their eyes opened. "Some of them," he said, "have made their way out of Burma disgusted at Japanese behaviour. They have told us how the Japanese have looted your goods, have raped your women and defiled your pongyi-kyauangs. This last was only to be expected. The Japanese are not Buddhists like you are—they have no respect for your religious feelings. No wonder that even the Thakins and the Burma Freedom Army now hate the Japanese and have no trust in the so-called Burmese Ministers who are content to serve the invaders."

Sir Reginald declared that the Japanese had taken away every vestige of real freedom which Burma had enjoyed. Before the invasion, Burmans had achieved a very considerable measure of political and economic freedom. "You yourselves elected your Members to the House of Representatives. The Council of Ministers were men whom you had returned to Parliament by your votes. They had great power. All the nation-building departments were under their undisputed control. Never once were your own Burmese Ministers hindered from

doing what they thought best for the good of their own people.

"All that the Japanese have taken away from you. It is true that they promised you 'freedom'—but like all Japanese or German promises they are not worth the paper upon which they are written. But how could Japan give freedom to anyone? It is something which they do not understand as the masses of Japan have never enjoyed freedom themselves. They have always been kept under the iron heel of military discipline—their Governments have been Governments of Generals and Admirals. They have always despised the sort of freedom which you so passionately desire."

## The Thakin Party

Speaking of the administration which the Japanese have set up in Burma, Sir Reginald reminded the Burmans that they had no voice in its formation. Its nucleus is the Thakin Party which had only a very small following with very few seats in the House of Representatives. The Electorate knew that the Thakins were incapable of running a district council let alone the whole country. Yet they had now been made into an important people, not, however, by the people of Burma but by the Japanese army. The Burmese people themselves had not been consulted and they had had no voice in it.

Of the future, Sir Reginald said that a policy is being framed the object of which is to make Burma a better and happier country than she has ever been—once the Japanese have been driven out and sent running back to their own islands.

Speaking of British determination, the Governor said that whereas the Japanese would have them believe that defeat stares Britain in the face nothing could be further from the truth. In Britain itself and everywhere throughout the United Nations, great armies were in training to put an end for

all time to Nazi, Fascist and Japanese aggression. They could be sure that the Japanese invaders who had destroyed Burma's cities, defiled Burmese women and desecrated Burma's sacred buildings would be punished with the utmost severity. His Excellency advised all Burmans to keep away from possible targets of United Nations' bombers, such as aerodromes.

In a reference to those officials who had remained behind in Burma, Sir Reginald said they could be assured that after our return to Burma those who are found to have behaved in a loyal and proper manner during the enemy's occupation will not suffer in comparison with their colleagues who escaped from Burma.

## ANCIENT INDIA'S CONTACT WITH SUMATRA AND JAVA

Seals of office of rural and urban dignitaries of ancient India and inscriptions on stone and on copper plates which prove that the great Buddhist centre maintained contact with Java, Sumatra and other countries have been unearthed at Nalanda (in Bihar), once the site of a famous Buddhist University. A memoir (No. 66) just published by the Archaeological Survey of India describes the results of over two decades of continuous excavation on the site and the discovery of a series of remarkable stupas and monastic buildings.

The clay seals show to what extent civic administration had advanced in India 1,100 years ago. A stone inscription of the 8th century refers to a warden of the northern marches (whose title, *Tikin*, suggests that he was of Tartar origin) who had made a religious offering at Nalanda. A record of over eleven centuries ago shows that a ruler of the Sailendra dynasty, whose dominions included Sumatra and Java, requested the Pala King Devapala to provide for the maintenance of a monastery which the Indonesian ruler had erected at Nalanda.

## BARRAGE BALLOONS

[ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 361 ]

the Japanese raid on Trincomalee the barrage proved an unqualified success and all reports suggest that the enemy were uncomfortably surprised.

Before the war some people were sceptical of the value of the balloons but the earliest of the large-scale German attacks proved that the criticisms were unfounded and the barrage system was quickly expanded.

The main object of the balloon is not to destroy aircraft but to deter the enemy in dive-bombing and low-level attacks. To the pilot of a high-speed aircraft the balloon cable is invisible and unless he is prepared to face great risks he is forced to fly so high that accurate bombing is more difficult and ground strafing impossible. The pilot who suddenly finds himself in a balloon barrage meets with the most nerve-racking of experiences.

Balloon crews are highly trained as ground troops. Should their balloon be in danger of capture they can quickly destroy it by the mere cutting of the cable and they at once become infantrymen, efficient with grenade, machine-gun and rifle.

## "UNSHAKABLE WILL TO VICTORY"

### SIR M. ZAFRULLA KHAN'S TRIBUTE TO CHINESE

In a message to China on the eve of his departure for India, Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan, Agent-General to the Government of India in China, said:—

"On the eve of my departure from Chungking I should like to express my heartfelt gratitude for the sincerity and friendliness of the reception that I have enjoyed in China. During my all too short stay here, I have been very deeply impressed by the unshakable will to victory of the Chinese people even in difficult times. I can say with conviction that times are better now than they were when I arrived, and, although there may be hardships still ahead, we can look forward with confidence to a victory that will certainly reward the combined efforts of the United Nations.

"My stay in Chungking coincided with a period of stress and anxiety in India. While I have tried to interpret to China the mind of India, I have explained how the independence that all Indians, Hindu and Muslim alike, desire and demand can arise only on a foundation of unity and agreement among the communities in India itself.

"I will take away with me not only memories of warm and friendly treatment and the picture of a courageous, enduring and resourceful people, but also determination to further in every way that lies within my power closer understanding and sympathy between India and China in whose united hands will lie in increasing measure the prosperity and progress of the Eastern world."

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 1, 1942



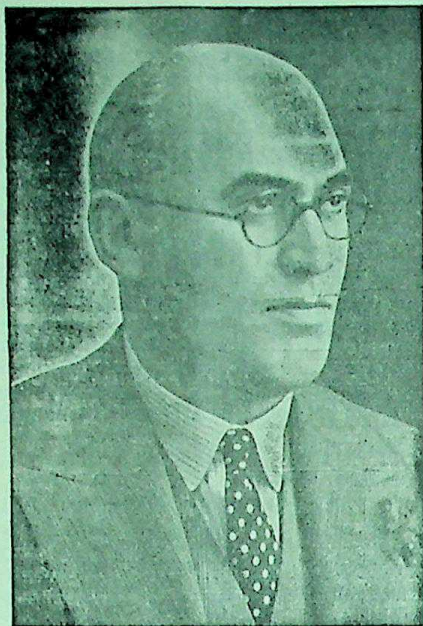
# SIR JEREMY RAISMAN ON ALLOCATION OF EXPENDITURE FOR DEFENCE OF INDIA

**R**eplying to the debate on the adjournment motion, moved by Mr. Jamnadas Mehta on September 22, 1942, in the Central Assembly, to discuss matters arising out of the Finance Member's recent visit to England, the Hon'ble Sir Jeremy Raisman, Finance Member, said :

Sir, I feel that the House is really, whilst jealous of its own rights, doing less than justice to what must be regarded as the rights of any Government. After all, as the House is aware, it is not very long since I returned from England. The House is also aware that the Government have been preoccupied with matters of great urgency during the period since my return, and that practically the whole of last week all the Members of Government were busily engaged in attending to the business of this House.

If immediately on my return from England, a long statement had been put out on all the matters which had been under discussion, it would undoubtedly have been said that this so-called Government had not even applied its mind to the question, that they had been faced with a *fait accompli*, exactly as my Hon'ble friend suggests this House will be faced, and that the working of this Government was a farce, that the Government even as now constituted had no influence whatever on the main financial questions with which the country is concerned.

Now, it has happened, on the other hand, that the Government has required



HON'BLE SIR JEREMY RAISMAN,  
FINANCE MEMBER

some time to consider the subject matter for itself, and I must say that it is somewhat surprising to me that the House should in effect have taken the attitude that our curiosity must be satisfied at the earliest possible date, whether or not the Govern-

ment has had time to consider these matters for itself. (Hon'ble Members: No, no.) That seems to be the tenor of many of the remarks of at any rate the last speaker.

## Government's Position

I would like to remove misunderstandings. I had hoped this morning to be able, if I received the indulgence of the Chair, to avoid the necessity for this discussion this afternoon, by explaining the position of the Government at this moment. I was saying that as all Hon'ble Members were aware the developments in the war situation since the last budget was presented have resulted in a great intensification of the measures taken for the defence of India. To take the most obvious example, there has been an enormous increase in the strength of the air forces stationed in this country. Our anti-aircraft defences have also been greatly strengthened. It is clear that even within the terms of the existing financial settlement certain questions may arise regarding the share, which may fairly be allocated to India, of the cost of measures which are indubitably directed to the defence of Indian territory and which at the same time cover a wider objective. Problems of this nature have arisen under the settlement from an early stage and have been dealt with in accordance with well-defined principles.

## Principle Of India's Liability

And here I would traverse some of the remarks made by my Hon'ble friend, Sir Cowasjee Jehangir, about the vagueness of the description of India's liabilities. The principles under which the liability of India is determined are perfectly clear and well understood; they are capable of being applied in audit; they are audited by the Auditor-General on behalf of India and by the Controller and Auditor-General on behalf of the other party, the United Kingdom; they are clearly set out in the



India's air defences have been enormously strengthened in recent months, and more and more aerodromes are being constructed throughout the country. Here, labourers are working to enlarge an aerodrome somewhere in India





TANKS AND OTHER VALUABLE WAR MATERIALS FORMED PART OF THE RECENT CONVOY WHICH ARRIVED IN INDIA FROM U. K.

Appropriation Accounts and placed before the Public Accounts Committee, first of this country, and then of the United Kingdom. There is no question of its being a vague or mystical formula. It is a category which is quite clearly understood, and in practice I myself have constantly referred to that type of measure in this House as measures for the local defence of India; and I claim that there can be very little doubt as to what is meant by a measure for the local defence of India.

It is obvious that a measure of that type is judged by reference to the geographical criterion, namely, by reference to the geographical boundaries of India. Therefore, when my Hon'ble friend, Mr. Jamnadas Mehta, talks as though further liabilities might be imported into this category—from Aden, from Egypt, from Burma and so on—he is erring from what is clearly the meaning of this class of liability.....

Sir Cowasjee Jehangir: In item 3 there is no such mention of local defence. The Hon'ble Member has certainly mentioned that in his speech; but if you read clause 3 there is no such mention. We are talking of the future, not of the past.

The Hon'ble Sir Jeremy Raisman: In the working of this settlement it has always been understood on behalf of India that the measures falling within that category were measures for the local defence of India.

Sir Cowasjee Jehangir: For the future.

#### Defence Of India

The Hon'ble Sir Jeremy Raisman: It was always so interpreted, and I may say that there is no question of widening the interpretation of that clause. The difficulty arises from this fact: The war on behalf of India, the local defence of India, cannot be a part of the War which is waged in complete isolation from every other



Indian Technical personnel examining one of the tanks after it was unloaded from the recent convoy from U. K.

sphere of war activity. To take a very familiar example nearer home, the cost of General Headquarters, India, might be regarded *prima facie* as a measure for the local defence of India. But since the organisation of General Headquarters, India, also at times deals with matters which go beyond the geographical frontiers of India, it has been agreed that the cost of General Headquarters is a joint measure and that

therefore His Majesty's Government must pay a part of it, and since there is no simple way of allocating that part, it has been decided that it should be divided fifty-fifty.

#### Meaning Of Joint Measure

I merely give that as an example to show what is meant by a joint measure which phrase has been frequently used, which has been referred to in the budget



speech of 1940-41 and has also been used in the appropriation accounts. It is in relation to Indian war measures also that a body of case law has grown up which the two Auditors-General concerned have been able to use to guide them in dealing with allocations of expenditure between the two Governments.

Sir Cowasjee Jehangir: May I point out to the Hon'ble Member that the only answer that I personally require is that the policy will not be changed in the future, due to the discussions he has had in England? That is the main question, that the policy will not be changed; is that so?

The Hon'ble Sir Jeremy Raisman: I was about to deal with that very point. I had to deal with that because a certain amount of what I may call prejudice was imported by the description of this class of India's defence liabilities, and I wanted to make it clear.....

Mr. Jammadas M. Mehta: It is not prejudice: it is the fear and anxiety.

#### Defence Estimates

The Hon'ble Sir Jeremy Raisman: Well, fear and anxiety. I was saying that decisions of this character, namely, in regard to problems of this nature, largely determine the amount of India's defence estimates. The war for the defence of India is a part of the war generally. The House will, I trust, realise that it is hardly possible for questions relating to the amount of that expenditure to be discussed except in relation to the total picture which is presented in a budget speech. It was not the intention of the Government to present a supplementary budget in the course of this year, and therefore the occasion for a review of India's defence expenditure would not arise until the next regular budget session.

Now, on the other hand, a different type of question may also arise, namely, whether any liability should be accepted which goes beyond the principles of the existing financial settlement, for example, if India were being asked to defray part of the cost of operations beyond her frontiers—that is the point to which my Hon'ble friend, Mr. Jammadas Mehta, referred—if the Government were contemplating the acceptance of any liability of this nature, then there would undoubtedly be ground for consideration whether the question of principle was not one on which this House was entitled to have an opportunity to express its views before any commitments were undertaken. The discussion of such a matter of principle might well take place apart from the actual budget debate.

I think I have made clear the difference between these two types of questions which might arise. Sir Cowasjee Jehangir raised another point, namely, whether Government would put out a statement of the position before the presentation of the budget in order to give Members time to consider its implications before the general budget discussion. This is a point which, as I indicated yesterday, will receive the careful consideration of the Government.

To sum up, the point at issue really depends upon the nature of the decisions which Government may have to take. Clearly, if Government were to take decisions which did not involve what my Hon'ble friend, Sir Cowasjee Jehangir, calls a departure of principle, then the position would be entirely different from the situation if Government were contemplating the acceptance of a new type of liability or of a liability which went beyond the principles of the existing financial settlement. I hope I have made the position clear and that the House will agree that Government's position in this matter is entirely reasonable and has full regard for the rights of the House in matters of this kind.

## SEVEN JAPANESE AIR RAIDS ON BRITISH INDIA IN APRIL AND MAY

In the Indian Legislative Assembly on September 16, Pundit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra asked: Will the Hon'ble Member for Civil Defence be pleased to make a comprehensive statement about the air raids that have so far taken place in this country with special reference to:

- (i) their number, date and time and places of occurrence;
- (ii) the nature and extent of damage caused;
- (iii) the number of casualties; and
- (iv) the nature of air raid precautionary measures provided in places where such raids took place?

Mr. N. V. H. Symons, Joint Secretary, Civil Defence Department, replied: There have been seven air raids on places in British India up to date, but no town has been bombed. In addition, there were two raids on Imphal, the capital of Manipur State.

All the raids occurred in April and May, 1942, and took place in full daylight at various times between 6-45 a.m. and 5 p.m.

As regards the raids on British India, with one exception they were directed purely on targets of military importance or imagined military importance. One was on the Port of Vizagapatam, one near Cocanada, three on military targets near Chittagong, one in a rural area of Eastern Assam and one, which is the exception I have already mentioned, was delivered by a reconnaissance plane which came down low and fired some bursts of machine-gun fire at workers at a tea-garden in East Bengal. The only casualty resulting from this attack was one goat killed.

#### An Explanation

It is not desirable in the public interest to give more exact details of the places raided as, in some cases, the Japanese missed what we believe to have been their targets and we do not want to tell them exactly where their bombs did fall.

The casualty figures for Vizagapatam and Cocanada were published on April 8 in a Press communique which read as follows:—

"Detailed figures of casualties in the air raids on Vizagapatam and Cocanada on April 6 show that five persons were killed and 40 wounded in Vizagapatam and one killed and five wounded in Cocanada.

"It is not intended, as a normal practice, to give detailed figures of casualties sustained in air raids. Experience in the United Kingdom has shown that information of value to the enemy may be conveyed by this means. The United Kingdom has, therefore, abandoned the practice of giving detailed figures. Detailed figures are given in the present instance because these raids represent the first Japanese air attacks on India and because rumour has placed these very slight casualties at a much higher figure."

In pursuance of this policy, it is not proposed to publish the total figures of

civilians killed yet as they could be related by the enemy to this particular series of raids. The number, however, is not high which may be judged when I say that the sum total of ascertained casualties, both killed and wounded, is 285.

Material damage in the raids was negligible.

#### A.R.P. Measures In Towns

The Air Raid Precautionary measures adopted in towns classified as possible targets consist of lighting restrictions, air raid warning arrangements, air raid shelters and slit trenches, structural precautions to buildings, Wardens Service with Report and Control centres, rescue service, Fire Service, Casualty and Hospital services, Corps Disposal Organisation, provision of mobile parties for the repair of roads, water, electricity, sewage, telephone and telegraph services and arrangements for salvage and the demolition of unsafe buildings.

There are also arrangements for the care of the homeless, for dispersal of the population outside the congested target area and for the food supplies necessary for these purposes and also for the consumption of industrial labour and essential workers should the normal supply organisation be affected.

Pundit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: Will the Hon'ble Member be pleased to state if the A.R.P. organisations were in existence in the places where the air raids took place, and, if so, did they render effective service during and after the raids?

Mr. N. V. H. Symons: These organisations were in existence in the towns adjacent to the places which were bombed and they were able to render help. The service they rendered was, in some cases, distinctly effective.

This reply is purposely not made more definite and exact for reasons which Hon'ble Members will readily appreciate, that is, the necessity of giving as little useful information as may be to the enemy.



#### INDIAN ARMY AWARDS

Here are two Indian Army Awards approved by the Commander-in-Chief, Middle East:—

D.S.O. to Lieut. D. B. Harrel, 7th Rajput Regiment and I.D.S.M. to No. 18499 Rifleman (A/Naik) Muhammad Inayat Ali Khan, 6th Rajputana Rifles.

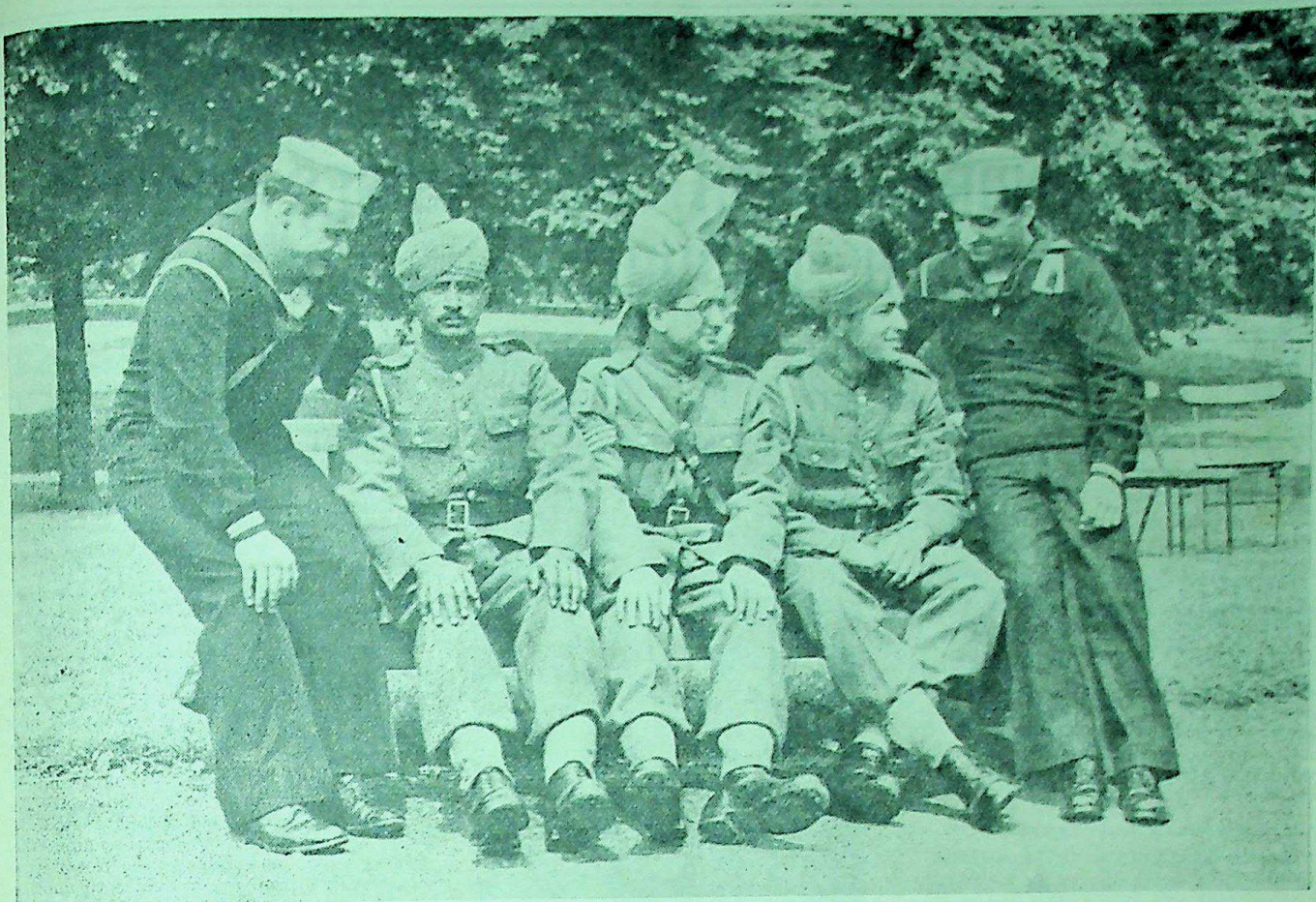


#### THE UNITED PROVINCES SQUADRON

An article entitled "The United Provinces Squadron", dealing with the exploits of Blenheims, published in "Indian Information" dated August 1, 1942, was, through an error, illustrated with photographs of the United Provinces Hurricane Squadron.

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 1, 1942





THIS GROUP OF BROTHERS IN ARMS IS OF UNITED STATES SEAMEN AND MEMBERS OF THE R.I.A.S.C.

## ANTI-MALARIA DRIVE IN CANTONMENTS

In order to reduce still further the incidence of malaria among the Forces in India, a reorganisation scheme has been sanctioned and is being enforced under the direction of an expert in charge of an anti-malarial section which has been created at G.H.Q. Sixty cantonments in different parts of India have been selected for the operation of the new scheme. To each is posted a permanent anti-malaria officer, specially trained at the Malaria Institute of India. A liberal scale of funds and modern equipment have been sanctioned to allow of extensive preventive measures being undertaken not only within cantonment limits but also among the adjacent civilian population.

For troops in the field, anti-malaria units have been formed and placed in charge of selected and specially trained officers. These units are serving in operational areas both in India and overseas, where they have already rendered valuable services.

### QUININE POSITION IN INDIA

The Public Accounts Committee commenced its sittings on August 6, 1942, under the chairmanship of Mr. C. E. Jones, Finance Secretary, who presided in the absence of the Hon'ble the Finance Member, who was then in England on official business.

They examined the Appropriation Accounts for 1940-41 for which the Departments of Education, Health and Lands and of Indians Overseas are responsible.

It was stated that the quantity of quinine sulphate in stock at the end of 1940-41 was approximately 268,000 lbs. Further stocks had since then been received and there was no danger of an immediate shortage of quinine.

Experiments were being undertaken on the Russian model by which quinine might be extracted from the plant within 18 months instead of the much longer period that was necessary with normal methods.

The Committee also learnt that the Institute of Architects had been invited to nominate architects to examine the Taj Mahal, repairs to which had been held over pending this examination.

## TRAIN DERAILMENT CAUSED BY SABOTAGE

The Government Inspector of Railways confirms that the cause of derailment, on October 3, 1942, of the Down Peshawar Express of the G.I.P. Railway between Chalisgaon and Vaghli on Igatpuri-Bhusawal main line, is due to sabotage, by removal of one rail on the down side of the down track. The fastenings of this rail were found removed and the rail was found lying alongside the track on the bank.

The engine and two lower class and one upper class bogies were completely derailed and one lower class bogie and bogie brake were derailed and smashed. One upper class bogie was also partly derailed.

As a result of the accident, 13 passengers and the brakeman of the train were killed and 29 passengers and the guard injured.

Owing to the derailment, the up and down main lines between Igatpuri and

Bhusawal were blocked. Temporary single line working on the up track was introduced the same day; and traffic was passed without transhipment.

## RAILWAY TIMINGS AND NEW I.S.T.

In accordance with the decision of the Government of India to adopt Indian Standard Time  $6\frac{1}{2}$  hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (instead of  $5\frac{1}{2}$  hours) with effect from the midnight of August 31-September 1, 1942, all clocks and watches of running and yard staff etc. of Indian Railways were advanced by one hour.

Ceylon, which was formerly 5 hours ahead of G.M.T., also came into line with India from the midnight of August 31-September 1, 1942.

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## I. A. F. RATES OF PAY

[ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 360 ]

sanctioned for married officers. These rates vary from Rs. 450 per month for an Acting Pilot Officer in the general duties branch to Rs. 930 per month for a Squadron Leader, general duties.

Full details of pay, as influenced by ranks, service and skill, in the various groups—there are six and a special section for air gunners—and particulars of enrolment discipline, training, etc., can be obtained from Technical Recruiting Officers or from the Recruiting Directorate, General Headquarters, Delhi.

Today, the Indian Air Force not only offers a young man the chance to defend his country but also an interesting, carefree, well-paid job and first class technical training which will enable him to play an important role in the future of his India.



# EDUCATION-HEALTH-LANDS

## SIR JOGENDRA SINGH EMPHASISES NEED TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION

**"T**he battle of food has just begun. It has become as vital a matter of survival and victory as the battle of munitions, tanks and guns. It is the combined capacity of the farmer in the field, the worker in the factory and the soldier on the battle front to put forward their maximum effort that would determine how soon and how speedily we can win the final and decisive victory," declared the Hon'ble Sirdar Sir Jogendra Singh, Member for Education, Health and Lands, broadcasting from Delhi on September 25. He said:

It is my rare good fortune to have in my portfolio Education, Health and Lands. Education opens the gates to the harvested treasures of knowledge of all times. On health depends both the power of increasing production and enjoyment. Salik, a poet, has said:—

*"If poverty haunts the door no more*

*"The blessings of health are a thousandfold."*

Education and health cannot be maintained without land; the mother that nurses the whole creation from birth to death, gathers everything back to her fold and sends forth again in renewed garments of youth:

*"Not all have blossomed into the tulip and the rose*

*"The beauties must lie buried under the veil of earth."*

These are not the days to indulge in poetical fancies though it has been said:

*"In time of distress just think of pleasant things*

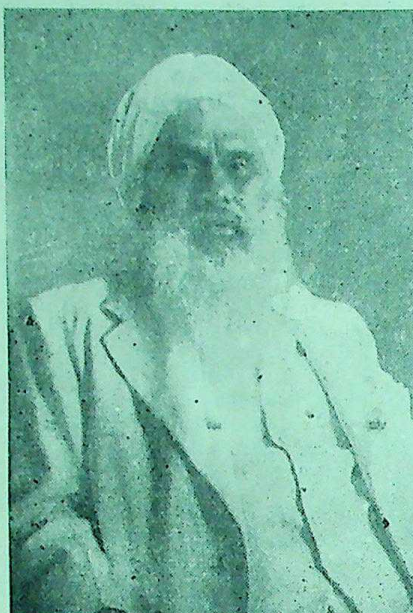
*"For this wonderful alchemy endows the poverty-stricken with untold wealth."*

### Grim Realities

It is essential that in facing grim realities we should not lose our sense of proportion, but meet them cheerfully with unflinching determination to overcome difficulties as they arise. It is true that agriculture has been transferred to the Provinces and the Centre can do no more than advise and persuade the Provinces to co-operate in the common effort to produce more food. We can, however, serve as a centre of co-ordination between the Provinces and make available the knowledge gained from the whole of India.

The essential requirements of man are food, clothing and a house to live in. Agriculture is the primary source of meeting the vital needs of humanity. Therefore, it has been always held that agriculture occupies the first place, trade the middle and service the third.

Now let us walk together and see how good cultivation and manure can increase production. We can take two fields side by side, one cultivated by a painstaking husbandman, he who ploughs frequently and exposes his soil to the enriching rays of sun, conserves his manure, selects his seed and knows the value of mixed farming. See him, when he is harvesting his crop at the threshing floor, how he fills his bags with grain which he keeps for feeding his



HON'BLE SIR JOGENDRA SINGH, MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, HEALTH AND LANDS

family and from his cash crops he gets all the money he needs to meet demands on his scanty purse. His house is clean, his womenfolk are well-dressed, his children are well nursed. Compare with him his neighbour who is content to scratch the soil anyhow, does not trouble to collect any manure or select any seed or grow a money crop. He has little to gather at the time of harvest, carries a load of debt and is eternally doomed to under-nourishment and unrelieved poverty.

### Need For Increasing Production

The need of the moment is that we must definitely concentrate on increasing production, which depends on our conserving farm-yard manure and composting all the rubbish which is now thrown away. Composting promises a definite increase in manure and consequently an increased yield. Local bodies should be encouraged to produce manure and distribute it in the neighbourhood. All animal and vegetable waste should be made into compost and returned to the land. Organic material now burned or dumped should be used for revitalising the soil.

The land should be properly ploughed and sown with a good seed and even marginal land brought under cultivation. It is true agricultural resources cannot be developed without agricultural credit and without the monetary system meeting to the full the requirements of agriculture but we can greatly increase national efficiency by promoting co-operation, unity of purpose and good-will amongst all sections and communities. The economic links permit no separative tendencies.

The sowing of India's principal *rabi* crops such as wheat, gram, barley, etc. is about to begin. I thought I would talk to my fellow-agriculturists and tell them the supreme urgency of increasing area under

these crops. We must ensure adequate food supplies for our domestic requirements and for our sons who have joined the fighting forces, and have covered themselves with glory. I wish my voice could touch the hearts of all the people engaged in the production of food. I wish to whisper in their ears a message. Remember on you rests the responsibility to produce for your soldier sons and your fellow-countrymen.

Broadly speaking, India is self-sufficient in respect of her normal food requirements. On an average India produces nearly 100 lakh tons of wheat per year, consumes nearly 99 lakh tons, which leaves a small balance to meet the requirements of other provinces. In addition we produce 264 lakh tons of rice as against the normal consumption of 278 lakh tons which means a deficit of 14 lakh tons which used to be met by imports from Burma. Bajra and jowar give nearly 92 lakh tons and gram 35½ lakh tons. In spite of adequacy in normal years, owing to the deficit of 14 lakh tons of rice and our other extraordinary commitments, we need increased production. The position has been greatly aggravated by abnormal pressure on transport and other factors which now impede the free flow of commodities from one province to another.

### Food Production Weeks

The Government of India realised that rising demands in relation to supply must be met and initiated a vigorous 'grow more food' campaign with the whole-hearted support of all the Provinces and States. It is hoped that as a result of this combined effort, nearly 96 lakh additional acres would come under food crops giving a yield of nearly 22 lakh tons of food grains, provided the seasons are favourable and the monsoon does not fail.

I am glad to say the rains have been bountiful, and that a number of Provincial and State governments have agreed to hold Food Production Weeks, in order to emphasise the supreme urgency of increasing the area and output of *rabi* crops. The prices are rising. The Provincial and State authorities are offering a number of concessions such as the free distribution of improved quality seed or at concessional rates, provision of irrigation water at reduced rates or its reservation for the production of food crops wherever feasible, provision of manure and *taccavi* loans.

It is of the utmost importance for my fellow-agriculturists to take the fullest advantage of these favourable conditions and make every effort to place all the available areas under *rabi* crops such as wheat, barley and gram and to increase yields by the application of manure. I would earnestly urge upon all Provincial and State Governments to arrange for the supply of oil cake for manure as far as possible.

According to available data it appears that while the maximum acreage under wheat reached in the United Provinces, Central Provinces and Bombay was nearly 88 lakhs, 34 lakhs and 19 lakhs respectively, the actual acreage during the last year was under wheat in the same provinces was 79 lakhs, 33 lakhs and 17½ lakhs. It is evident that if we make a strong effort all the Provinces can again reach, if not surpass, their previous record of acreages under food crops.



## HEALTH

## ON CRIPPS OFFER TO INDIA

It is also a common experience of the man in the street and the woman in the kitchen that the prices of his or her familiar vegetables are going up by leaps and bounds from month to month. I would, therefore, urge upon every one of you to try to utilise every spare strip of land that you in your individual or collective capacity can bring under cultivation for the increased production of vegetables. Such Provinces and States as have at present to import gram and chillies from long distances should encourage their production during the *rabi* season.

## Acute Depression

I know that the agriculturists have gone through a period of acute and unrelieved depression for over a decade. For the first time now the prices of food grains have touched levels which are generally regarded as remunerative. The prices may rise still further. I would, therefore, urge on all producers to make hay while the sun shines, and take full advantage of the present situation by increasing the total output and thus raising their total money income.

Perhaps you know that the Government of India have given an assurance that they would be prepared to purchase such quantities in the open market as would be necessary to prevent a serious fall in prices. I, therefore, earnestly invite all of you who are listening to me tonight to impress on all that in increasing the production of food grains they would not only be helping the community to face the grim trials of war, but they would also be substantially adding to their money incomes and thus improving their own economic positions.

The *Rig Veda* says :

"In thee, O Food, is set the spirit of God  
"Under thy flag brave deeds are done  
"He slew the Dragon with thy help."

So shall our sons win peace if we provide abundance of food. The battle of food has just begun. It has become as vital a matter of survival and victory as the battle of munitions, tanks and guns. It is the combined capacity of the farmer in the field, the worker in the factory, and the soldier on the battle front to put forward their maximum effort that would determine how soon and how speedily we can win the final and decisive victory.

The real wealth of man lies in recovering from earth all that he needs for nourishment. By providing a balanced diet for all, we can increase the health of body and mind and promote correct and constructive thinking, peace, power, progress and happiness. For my own part I would assure you that I would do my best to secure for you a fair deal and the governing principle of my policy will be: In your progress lies our future hope, in your prosperity our strength and in your contentment our best reward.

## ADVANCE OF PAY FOR I.M.S. OFFICERS

The Government of India have decided that candidates selected for Emergency Commission in the Indian Medical Service for duty within Indian limits may be granted an advance of pay not exceeding Rs. 300 at the time of appointment.

The advance will be recovered by monthly instalments of one-third of the pay.

fullest possible share in the Central Government of India, under the existing Constitution. Under that Constitution, India is governed by the Governor-General on the advice of his Executive Council. That Council is composed of the heads of the great administrative departments, and all these posts, except that of Commander-in-Chief, were offered to the Indian leaders. The Governor-General is by law bound to follow the advice of the majority of his Council, unless in his opinion the safety of India requires him to overrule it. In practice, that reserve power is rarely exercised.

The present Indian Defence Member, or Minister of Defence, Sir Feroz Khan Noon, who has many friends in America, has stated that in his experience over the last year, the Governor-General has not once overruled the majority of his Council. All the same, and I think you will agree, the possession of this reserve power is essential because in this war, the defence of India is so intimately linked up with the defence of the Middle East, of Persia and Ceylon, and with the relief of China, and depends so largely on British ships, British aeroplanes, and British troops, not to speak of American and Chinese forces, that Britain cannot divest herself of the ultimate responsibility for its conduct. It is through the Governor-General's reserve power that his responsibility will in the last resort be discharged.

It was the Congress Party's last minute demand that this reserve power should be abandoned which wrecked the negotiations; it was not any reluctance on Cripps' part to go to the utmost practical limit to meet Indian aspirations; still less was any overruling telegrams sent by me, any action on the part of the Viceroy.

E. D. Morrow: But, does the British flag still hold good?

L. S. Amery: Yes, of course, our flag holds good. We will discuss it afresh.

"There is one subject about which all children should learn something, namely, health....."



THE RT. HON'BLE MR. L. S. AMERY

If, on the other hand, by British rule you mean an army of British officials ordering Indians about, well, there are less than 3,000 of them in the whole of the Civil Administration; less than 1 to 100,000 of a population twice as large as that of the United States.

E. D. Morrow: Well, Mr. Amery, all this is very interesting, but I have an idea that what people in America want to know at the moment is this. What is going to help us win this war?

L. S. Amery: So far as India is concerned, she has played, and will continue to play a mighty part in the war effort.

## FOOD FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

An attempt to put into simple language important facts about food and diet which the Indian high school pupil should know has been made in a 20-page bulletin "Food and Diet" prepared in the Nutrition Research Laboratories of the Indian Research Fund Association at Coonoor. The bulletin, primarily intended for use in schools, has been written in simple language avoiding difficult technical terms.

The purpose of the bulletin is expressed in the following observations of Dr. W. R. Aykroyd, Director of the Laboratories, in his preface: "There is one subject about which all children should learn something, namely, health. In India there is a great deal of ill-health and disease which could be prevented if people understood more about their causes and were determined to remove them....The kind of food we eat has a great influence on our health and much ill-health and disease are due to eating the wrong sort of diet. This Bulletin deals with this part of the subject of health, which is of great importance in India."

The booklet aims at teaching children about the practical side of dietetics. Thus, while a great deal has been written about vitamins, most of it is of little instructive value to ordinary people. A little knowledge of the more important vitamins is very useful to children. Various points are illustrated by anecdotes, such as the story of how Captain Cook kept his crews free from scurvy.

## What The Bulletin Deals With

The purpose of food, what it contains, the roles of vitamins and mineral salts, the value of milk and various cereals, the importance of cooking and regular meals, and the evils that result from badly balanced and poor diets are explained and the conclusions are summarised in thirteen "Facts to Remember."

It is hoped that the booklet will be translated into various Indian languages for use in schools throughout India. Adult students may find its perusal well worth while, as the improvement of the diet of the



# EDUCATION-HEALTH-LANDS

## SIR JOGENDRA SINGH EMPHATICALLY INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION HOUSING FOR IN SIMLA

"The battle of food has just begun. It has become as vital a matter of survival and victory as the battle of munitions, tanks and guns. It is the combined capacity of the farmer in the field, the worker in the factory and the soldier on the battle front to put forward their maximum effort that would determine how soon and how speedily we can win the final and decisive victory," declared the Hon'ble Sirdar Sir Jogendra Singh, Member for Education, Health and Lands, broadcasting from Delhi on September 25. He said:

It is my rare good fortune to have in my portfolio Education, Health and Lands. Education opens the gates to the harvested treasures of knowledge of all times. On health depends both the power of increasing production and enjoyment. Salik, a poet, has said:—

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Education and health cannot be maintained without land; the mother that nurses the whole creation from birth to death, gathers everything back to her fold and sends forth again in renewed garments of youth:

*"Not all have blossomed into the tulip and the rose*

*"The beauties must lie buried under the veil of earth."*

These are not the days to indulge in poetical fancies though it has been said:

*"In time of distress just think of pleasant methods of milk utilisation and the securing of properly trained men, according to the Annual Report of the Imperial Dairy Department for 1940-41."*

The department handled a large number of inquiries from the milk trade and private and public institutions, Provincial Governments and Indian States.

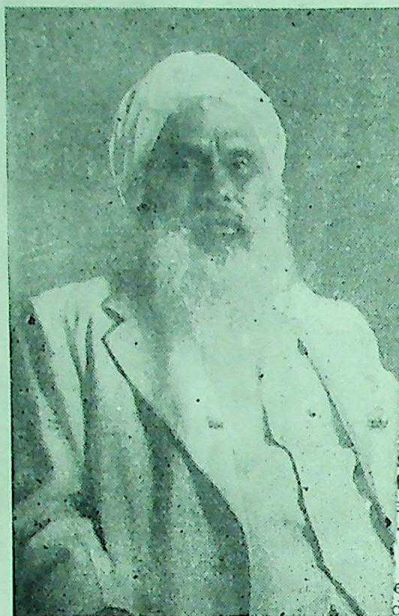
At the Imperial Dairy Institute, Bangalore, research work was done on indigenous methods of making butter, the preparation of Indian cottage cheese and the manufacture of rennet casein for plastics. Fifty-eight students from all parts of India, Burma, Ceylon and Malaya underwent various courses of training at the Institute.

### MEDICAL STORES FROM U. K.

The problem of establishing a satisfactory licensing system for the import of medical stores from the United Kingdom has been engaging the attention of the Government of India.

In order to avoid delays in the despatch of goods pending the establishment of such a system, it has now been decided to license all shipments of essential medical stores, made on the recommendation of the Medical Stores Committee, India Office.

The licences will be issued in India by the Chief Controller of Imports on receipt of particulars of the shipments by fast air mail from the India Office.



HON'BLE SIR JOGENDRA SINGH, MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, HEALTH AND LANDS

family and from his cash crops he gets all the money he needs to meet demand on his scanty purse. His house is clean, his womenfolk are well-dressed, his children are well nursed. Compare with him a neighbour who is content to scratch soil anyhow, does not trouble to collect any manure or select any seed or grow money crop. He has little to gather, are provided near the bed of each coolie, and there is a kitchen on each floor. Nearby

are bath-rooms and latrines of the most modern type. For this sanitary and up-to-date accommodation the Municipality proposes to charge each coolie only twelve annas a month.

### Motor Road Round Simla

The construction of the motor road round Simla is intended to relieve congestion by providing easy access to sites which are at present too far away for people to get to their work in shops and offices, and to divert mule traffic from the main centres of Simla, and, by providing roads capable of carrying motor traffic, to facilitate the transport of vegetables and other merchandise from the Simla Hills.

Their Excellencies inspected a section of the new alignment near Chhota Simla where it has been necessary to build a bridge over a gully and construct a considerable length of walling to support the crumbling hillside—operations which had been impeded by the heavy monsoon rains. Thereafter they drove along the part of the road where widening and metalling have been completed as far as Sanjoli, where it is intended this winter to begin the section looking up on the snow hills to the north, and which at present carries most of the heavy mule traffic.

The new and long overdue improvements will not merely contribute to the transport of goods and the victualling of an important station. They represent a very definite contribution to the health of Simla and its inhabitants.

## VALUE OF STONE PROTECTION FOR BRIDGE PIERS AGAINST FLOODS

Important conclusions regarding the value of stone protection for bridge piers against floods and the means to be adopted to prevent the excess accumulation of bed sand in canals are embodied in the Annual Report of the Central Irrigation and Hydrodynamic Research Station, Poona, for 1940-41.

Experiments carried on at the Station with scale models of the piers of the Hardinge Bridge over the Ganges, showed that an excessive quantity of stone piled high round the piers of bridges to protect them against flood was not only of less value than a smaller quantity of stone laid at a lower level but also caused deep scour holes to form downstream of the bridges into which the protecting stone was liable to slip, leading to failures.

Based on earlier experiments carried out at the Research Station, a curved approach channel 5,000 feet long was constructed during 1940-41 to control bed

sand entering the Sukkur Barrage Right Bank Canals. Results observed during the 1941 flood season are stated to have been highly satisfactory.

### Thirty-one Investigations

During the year under review 31 investigations were conducted by the Station by means of experiments on scale models and several inquiries were answered from all parts of India.

Specific problems tackled related to the control of sand entering off-takes of canals, river training, prevention of scour, siphon spill-ways for carrying off excess flow from storage reservoirs during floods, and the construction of falls of various designs. Basic experiments of general application related to problems connected with the protection of bridge piers against scour, the rate of sand attrition in channels and factors affecting flow in alluvial channels, among other matters.



# MR. AMERY ON CRIPPS OFFER TO INDIA

Here is the full text of an interview with Mr. L. S. Amery, Secretary of State for India, on the Cripps offer and the Indian political situation broadcast on the North American Service of the B.B.C.

**E. D. Morrow :** Is it true, Mr. Amery, that Mr. Churchill refused to India the right to be included in the Atlantic Charter?

**L. S. Amery :** No, Mr. Morrow, he did nothing of the sort. What he did was to point out that what was primarily in mind when the Charter was drafted was the liberation of the European nations now under the Nazi yoke, and that the policy to which we were already pledged in regard to India was entirely in harmony with the broad principle of the Charter. Article 3, you will remember, said that we respect the right of all peoples to choose the form of Government under which they will live. Well, that principle was laid down by us 25 years ago, as one to be progressively developed in India. Seven years ago we passed the law providing for the establishment of an Indian federation under which India might by now have been well on the way to complete self-government, if only the different elements in India had agreed upon putting it into effect. A year before the Atlantic Charter was under discussion, we declared that India should have the right to frame her own constitution for a Free India at the earliest possible moment after the war. After that, Sir Stafford Cripps went out to make it clear beyond doubt that we wished India after the war to be as free as ourselves; free to enjoy all the privileges of partnership in the British Commonwealth of free nations, or if she preferred to abandon these privileges. If that is not the Atlantic Charter, what is?

What is more, Mr. Morrow, Cripps made practical suggestions by which Indians might fill in their own constitution picture within the Atlantic Charter frame. Unfortunately, the different parties all wanted to paint different pictures, and since then, Mr. Gandhi and his party have been trying to slash the canvas, just because they couldn't have it all their own way at once, regardless of the views of the rest of India.

**E. D. Morrow :** But, do the Indians believe you mean what you say?

**L. S. Amery :** Yes, they do. In fact, it is just because they do believe that we mean to transfer power to them, that the different elements in India are so vehemently at issue as to which of them is to get that power. Five years ago 11 provinces of British India were indeed given all the powers of self-government, which are enjoyed by your state governments. That practical evidence of our good faith has only intensified the differences between Indians. The present deadlock, in fact, is not between Britain and India, but between Indians themselves.

Sir Stafford Cripps flew some 20,000 miles to offer India her freedom, but the Indian leaders literally would not cross the street to meet each other, and present him with any agreed plan for exercising it.

**E. D. Morrow :** But Mr. Amery, isn't it the case that Cripps offered India a National Government at once, and was then overruled from London?

**L. S. Amery :** No, I can deny categorically that Cripps was overruled from London. Every telegram to him was issued on my order, and I ought to know. What he did offer for the war period, over and above full freedom after the war, was the

fullest possible share in the Central Government of India, under the existing Constitution. Under that Constitution, India is governed by the Governor-General on the advice of his Executive Council. That Council is composed of the heads of the great administrative departments, and all these posts, except that of Commander-in-Chief, were offered to the Indian leaders. The Governor-General is by law bound to follow the advice of the majority of his Council, unless in his opinion the safety of India requires him to overrule it. In practice, that reserve power is rarely exercised.

The present Indian Defence Member, or Minister of Defence, Sir Feroz Khan Noon, who has many friends in America, has stated that in his experience over the last year, the Governor-General has not once overruled the majority of his Council. All the same, and I think you will agree, the possession of this reserve power is essential because in this war, the defence of India is so intimately linked up with the defence of the Middle East, of Persia and Ceylon, and with the relief of China, and depends so largely on British ships, British aeroplanes, and British troops, not to speak today of American and Chinese forces, that Britain cannot divest herself of the ultimate responsibility for its conduct. It is through the Governor-General's reserve power that this responsibility will in the last resort be discharged.

It was the Congress Party's last minute demand that this reserve power should be abandoned which wrecked the negotiations; it was not any reluctance on Cripps' part to go to the utmost practical limit to meet Indian aspirations; still less was it any overruling telegrams sent by me, or any action on the part of the Viceroy.

**E. D. Morrow :** But, does the British offer still hold good?

**L. S. Amery :** Yes, of course, our offer holds good. We will discuss it afresh at any time—at any time when there is a prospect of discussing it usefully. But you will remember, Mr. Morrow, that our object was not only to find a solution to the Indian constitutional problem, but also in the light of an offer to invite the co-operation of Indian party leaders in the war effort of the United Nations. The Congress Party's rejoinder to so fair, so generous an offer, was a deliberate attempt to sabotage that war effort. Until that attempt has been finally disposed of, and until the Congress leaders are prepared to negotiate with other parties on constitutional lines, discussion with them would clearly be unprofitable.

**E. D. Morrow :** So meanwhile, the British rule in India must continue?

**L. S. Amery :** It depends on what you mean by British rule. At this moment India is governed, subject only to the ultimate reserve power which I have mentioned, by an Executive composed of 11 Indians and 4 British, including General Wavell. Besides the Central Government for all British India, corresponding to your Federal Government, there are the Provinces corresponding to your 48 States. In five out of 11 Provinces, all the powers enjoyed by your states are in the hands of Indian Ministers, responsible to elected Indian Legislatures. The same would be the case in the remaining Provinces, if the Congress Ministries had not been ordered by their Central Party Congress to down tools and refuse to govern.



THE RT. HON'BLE MR. L. S. AMERY

If, on the other hand, by British rule you mean an army of British officials ordering Indians about, well, there are less than 3,000 of them in the whole of the Civil Administration; less than 1 to 100,000 of a population twice as large as that of the United States.

**E. D. Morrow :** Well, Mr. Amery, all this is very interesting, but I have an idea that what people in America want to know at the moment is this. What is going to help us win this war?

**L. S. Amery :** So far as India is concerned, she has played, and will continue to play a mighty part in the war effort under her existing constitution. Her Army, in which Indians and the British work together in loyal comradeship and emulation has distinguished itself on every battlefield of the Middle Eastern and African campaigns. Its German and Italian adversaries have unreservedly paid tribute to its prowess. Every man of that Indian Army is a volunteer. Recruits have never come forward so eagerly as in recent months, when according to some Press reports the whole of India was supposed to be in revolution against British rule. India's Merchant Navy and Air Force are also worthily playing their part. India produces the greater part of her own munitions and is contributing increasingly to Allied war supplies of all kinds. She would do even more, if she could get more machine tools, more plant, and a vast increase in technical personnel. India hopes that the United States will, as recommended by Dr. Grady's Mission, be able to help in these respects. Political changes, unless based on a measure of Indian agreement which is not yet in sight, could only have a disastrous effect upon recruiting, and upon India's whole war effort—an effort which is of inestimable importance to all of us.

**E. D. Morrow :** But, Mr. Amery, when we have won this war, will it be any nearer to a solution of the problem in India?

**L. S. Amery :** It is a problem of immense complexity and difficulty. But at any rate, we British, from long experience,

[ CONTINUED ON PAGE 372, COL. 3 ]



# PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S SIXTH REPORT ON LEND-LEASE

The United States is providing lend-lease aid at the rate of approximately \$8,000,000,000 a year, the President told Congress in transmitting his sixth report on lend-lease operations on September 14.

During the last three months covered by the report, lend-lease aid totalled \$1,992,000,000. The total amount up to the end of August was \$6,489,000,000, as compared with \$4,497,000,000 as in the fifth report to Congress three months ago.

Lend-lease aid is increasing, the President told Congress, but must increase even more.

From March, 1941, through August, 1942, the value of goods transferred and services rendered was \$5,129,000,000. In addition, the value of lend-lease goods in process as on August 31, 1942, was \$1,360,000,000.

## Ten Thousand Millions

In addition to goods provided under lend-lease aid, purchases by lend-lease countries from March, 1941, through August, 1942, equalled approximately \$5,800,000,000 worth of munitions, raw materials, and other supplies, a total of \$10,929,000,000 in goods supplied by the United States during the period.

At present about 35 per cent of all lend-lease exports are going to the United Kingdom, 35 per cent to the U. S. S. R., and 30 per cent to the Middle East, Australia, and other areas. Aid to China has been limited by transportation difficulties.

## Special Projects

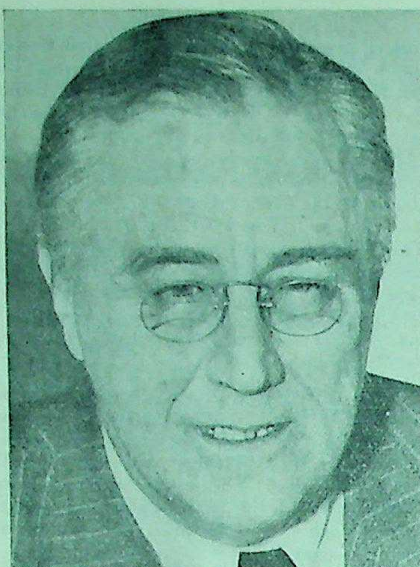
Lend-lease funds have also been used for special projects to make actual delivery of lend-lease goods more effective. Various types of small craft are being constructed, and the possibilities of a shallow draft cargo vessel of novel design originally known as the "Sea Otter" are being tested. The development of a model of modified design, now called the "Seamobile," has been entrusted to a corporation titled "Cargoes, Incorporated" wherein all the stock is owned by the Government.

Another special project has been the development of dehydrated foodstuffs in an effort to save shipping space and refrigeration capacity. For example, dehydrated meat takes only about 10 per cent of the space required to ship the equivalent food-value in other forms.

## Reciprocal Aid

In addition the sixth report describes the reciprocal aid agreements signed on September 3, by the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, and Fighting France. The agreements rest on the simple principle that each participant provides the other with such articles, services, facilities, and information as each is in a position to supply for the joint prosecution of the war.

Under reciprocal lend-lease, General MacArthur's men are receiving munitions, uniforms, food, and shelter from the Australians. Similarly, United States forces in New Zealand are receiving aid. The Fighting French in Equatorial Africa and New Caledonia are furnishing us with materials, facilities, and services. From Great Britain we are receiving a formidable amount of munitions and supplies. Guns, camps, aircraft, and military stores have been turned over to our troops. During July alone 250,000 British workmen were engaged in construction for the American Army.



PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

Finally, it is to be noted that lend-lease principles have been applied to relations between the other United Nations. The United Kingdom, for instance, is supplying military stores to the Soviet Union.

## U. S. PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Here are excerpts from the President's letter transmitted to Congress:

"Deliveries of lend-lease supplies, which have been growing, will have to grow much larger still. We and the other United Nations need all the weapons all of us can produce, and all the men all of us can muster. In relation to their available resources, Britain and Russia have up to now produced more weapons than we have, and they are continuing to produce to the limit in spite of the fact that Russia is a battlefield and Britain is an offensive base.

"So far the United States has little more than passed the half-way mark towards maximum possible war production. Not until we have reached the maximum—and we can do this only by stripping our civilian economy to the bone—can our fighting men and those of our allies be assured of the vastly greater quantities of weapons required to turn the tide. Not until then can the United Nations march forward together to certain victory."

## For The Greatest Good

Here are excerpts from a U. S. Government publication titled "Lend-lease Programmes":

"Lend-lease exports have gone wherever the need has been greatest. Firstly, when the Battle of Britain was raging, they went primarily to the United Kingdom. As the war spread to Africa, the Middle East, and Australia, aid was sent to those areas. With the signing of the Russian protocol last October, aid began to flow to Russia. Aid to China has been limited by the difficulty of transportation, but the development of other means of transportation is relieving this situation. Currently, about 35 per cent of lend-lease exports are going to the United Kingdom, 35 per cent to the U. S. S. R., 30 per cent to the Middle East, Australia, and other areas."

## "Seamobile"

"... Lend-lease funds have been used to finance the building and testing of a shallow

draft cargo vessel of novel design, originally known as the 'Sea Otter.' Experiments with small-sized models of this vessel have not been conclusive. Accordingly, it was determined to build a full-sized vessel for further development, and lend-lease funds made this possible. Tests on this first full-sized ship brought to light defects that called for re-designing. In order that the possibilities of a vessel of this type might be fully explored, the lend-lease administration continued its help by financing the construction of a second full-scale model modified in design and known as the 'seamobile.'

"Developments of this type of ship have been entrusted to a Corporation known as 'Cargoes, Incorporated' under control of a board of directors on which the Navy Department's War Shipping Administration is represented. All stock in the Corporation is owned by the Government. Cargoes, Inc. has now completed the necessary tests and engineering for a full-scale model Seamobile, and bids are being solicited for the construction of the vessel.

## More Than A Gesture

"The programme for reciprocal lend-lease has become a very material and important aspect of our supply problem. It puts the idea of pooling all our resources for war in the most dynamic form. It is more than a gracious and much-appreciated gesture of goodwill. Reciprocal aid represents the most economical use of the war resources of the United Nations. It means that we are husbanding time to transport and to use resources where they are. It means also, of course, that the peoples of Britain, Australia, and New Zealand, already on short rations, are freely sharing what they have with our troops.

"In recent reciprocal aid agreements the Governments of Australia and New Zealand announced that they regard the principles of the lend-lease agreement with Great Britain of February 23, 1942, as applicable also to their relations with the United States. They have thus become the eleventh and twelfth governments to adhere to the broad policies contained in the master agreements with Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and China.

"Since the fifth report to Congress on operations under the Act of March 11, 1941, similar agreements have been signed with Poland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Greece, Czechoslovakia, Norway, and Yugoslavia."

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## MR. AMERY ON CRIPPS OFFER TO INDIA

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 371]

do understand its difficulties and we know the limits of what can be done by intervention in what is now essentially a matter for Indians to settle for themselves. This, I believe, they will succeed in the end. But the problem is one whose history forbids any instantaneous or cut-and-dried solution. We shall bring to bear our goodwill and our helpful initiative whenever a favourable opportunity presents itself, but until the solution is found, we remain under a moral obligation to the four hundred million people of India, to shoulder in the last resort the responsibility for protecting them from aggression from without and against anarchy at home.

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 1, 1942



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

## PROGRESS OF INSURANCE IN INDIA REVIEWED

The total number of insurers registered under the Insurance Act, 1938 (excluding those whose certificates of registration have been cancelled) up to June 15, 1942, was 294, of which 198 insurers were constituted in India. Most of the Indian insurers carry on life insurance business only. They are 161 in number, and of the remaining 37 insurers, 18 carry on life insurance along with other insurance business and 19 carry on insurance business other than life.

Of the 198 Indian insurers, 72 have their head offices in the Bombay Presidency, 48 in Bengal, 32 in the Madras Presidency, 17 in the Punjab, 12 in Delhi, 7 in the United Provinces, 3 in the Central Provinces, 3 in Sind, 2 in Bihar, and 1 each in Assam and Ajmer-Merwara.

The total new life insurance business effected during 1940 amounted to 2,06,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 36,11,00,000 and yielding an annual premium income of Rs. 1,89,00,000, as compared with 3,00,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 46,62,00,000 and yielding an annual premium income of Rs. 2,37,00,000 in 1939 according to the Indian Insurance Year Book for 1941. Of this, new business done by Indian insurers amounted to 1,96,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 32,32,00,000 and having a premium income of Rs. 1,67,00,000 as compared with 2,89,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 42,51,00,000 and having a premium income of Rs. 2,14,00,000 in the previous year.

The total life insurance business effected in India and remaining in force at the end of 1940 amounted to 15,53,000 policies insuring a total sum of Rs. 2,85,63,00,000 and having a premium income of Rs. 13,99,00,000, as compared with 14,97,000 policies insuring a total sum of Rs. 2,71,80,00,000 and having a premium income of Rs. 14,26,00,000 at the end of 1939. Of this, the share of Indian insurers was represented by 13,72,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 2,25,51,00,000 and having a premium income of Rs. 10,69,00,000, as compared with 13,31,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 2,15,19,00,000 and having a premium income of Rs. 11,13,00,000 in the previous year.

The total new sums insured by Indian life offices in 1940 amounted to Rs. 35,23,00,000, as compared with Rs. 45,96,00,000 in the previous year. The total business remaining in force at the end of the year was Rs. 2,43,91,00,000, as compared with Rs. 2,32,42,00,000 at the end of the previous year. The total revenue income of the Indian life offices during the year amounted to Rs. 14,67,00,000, as compared with Rs. 14,83,00,000 in 1939.

### Increase In Life Funds

The life insurance funds increased by Rs. 6,00,00,000 and amounted to Rs. 62,41,00,000 at the end of the year. The rate of interest earned on the life funds during the year after deductions of income-tax at source was 4.37 per cent, as compared with 4.68 per cent in the previous year.

The total expenses of management expressed as a percentage of the premium income during the year worked out to 28.9 per cent, as compared with 33.2 per cent in the previous year.

Some Indian Life Offices had been operating outside India, mostly in Burma, British East Africa, Ceylon, Federated Malay States and the Straits Settlements. The total new sums insured by these offices outside India in 1940 amounted to Rs. 2,91,00,000 yielding an annual premium income of Rs. 16,00,000, as compared with Rs. 3,45,00,000 yielding an annual premium income of Rs. 19,00,000 in the preceding year. The total sums insured remaining in force at the end of 1940 amounted to Rs. 18,40,00,000 having a premium income of Rs. 96,00,000, as compared with Rs. 17,23,00,000 having a premium income of Rs. 93,00,000 in the previous year.

### Non-life Business

The net Indian premium income of all insurers under insurance business other than life insurance during 1940 was Rs. 3,61,00,000, as compared with Rs. 3,37,00,000 in 1939. Of this the Indian insurers' share was Rs. 1,18,00,000 as compared with Rs. 1,02,00,000 in the previous year. The Indian insurers received Rs. 54,00,000 (Rs. 48,00,000) from Fire, Rs. 29,00,000 (Rs. 18,00,000) from Marine, and Rs. 35,00,000 (Rs. 36,00,000) from miscellaneous insurance business. The non-Indian insurer received Rs. 92,00,000 (Rs. 1,05,00,000) from fire, Rs. 1,01,00,000 (Rs. 77,00,000) from marine and Rs. 50,00,000 (Rs. 53,00,000) from miscellaneous insurance business.

Some Indian insurers transact a substantial amount of non-life insurance business outside India also. These insurers had a net premium income of Rs. 93,00,000 in 1940 (as compared with Rs. 85,00,000 in 1939) from business outside India.

### Security Of Investments

In the course of a survey of the rates of interest assumed by the Indian Life Offices in their recent valuations, the Report says: "Although the tendency since the publication of the last Year Book has been in the direction of lower rates, it is not yet possible to say that this tendency arises from anything more than pressure of immediate circumstances." Referring to security of investments with which the subject of interest rates is bound up closely, the Report says: "High interest rates and great security do not go hand in hand and the latter is of infinitely greater importance to the policyholder, for on the security of the investments depends the payment of his claim when, in due course, it emerges."

Commenting on whether or not the funds of Insurance Companies should be released for purposes of industrial development the Report suggests a deeper examination of the proposition which will lead directly to the query how far it is legitimate to divert what are in effect trust monies

to industrial purposes where they are exposed to fluctuations and factors from which they would largely be free if they were invested in the more usual type of securities which are favoured by insurance concerns of great wealth and the widest experience. "The provision of funds for new enterprises," says the Report, "is no part of the function of the Insurance Companies; that can be left to professional financiers or other sources. The resources of Insurance Companies have been derived from policyholders who have subscribed them for the specific purpose of providing themselves or their families with protection against certain adverse contingencies."

The Report also comments on the undesirable practice with some companies of not providing the deposit instalments out of premium income. "They receive loans at interest from persons with money available to lend... This interest outgo is a set off against interest earned by the Company and has a profound and adverse effect on the valuation assumptions." As regards valuation of property in the form of buildings, the Report advises that it would be sounder not to take credit for the written-up values but to let the buildings stand in the books at the old values with the difference between those values and the present values as a hidden reserve.

### Publicity

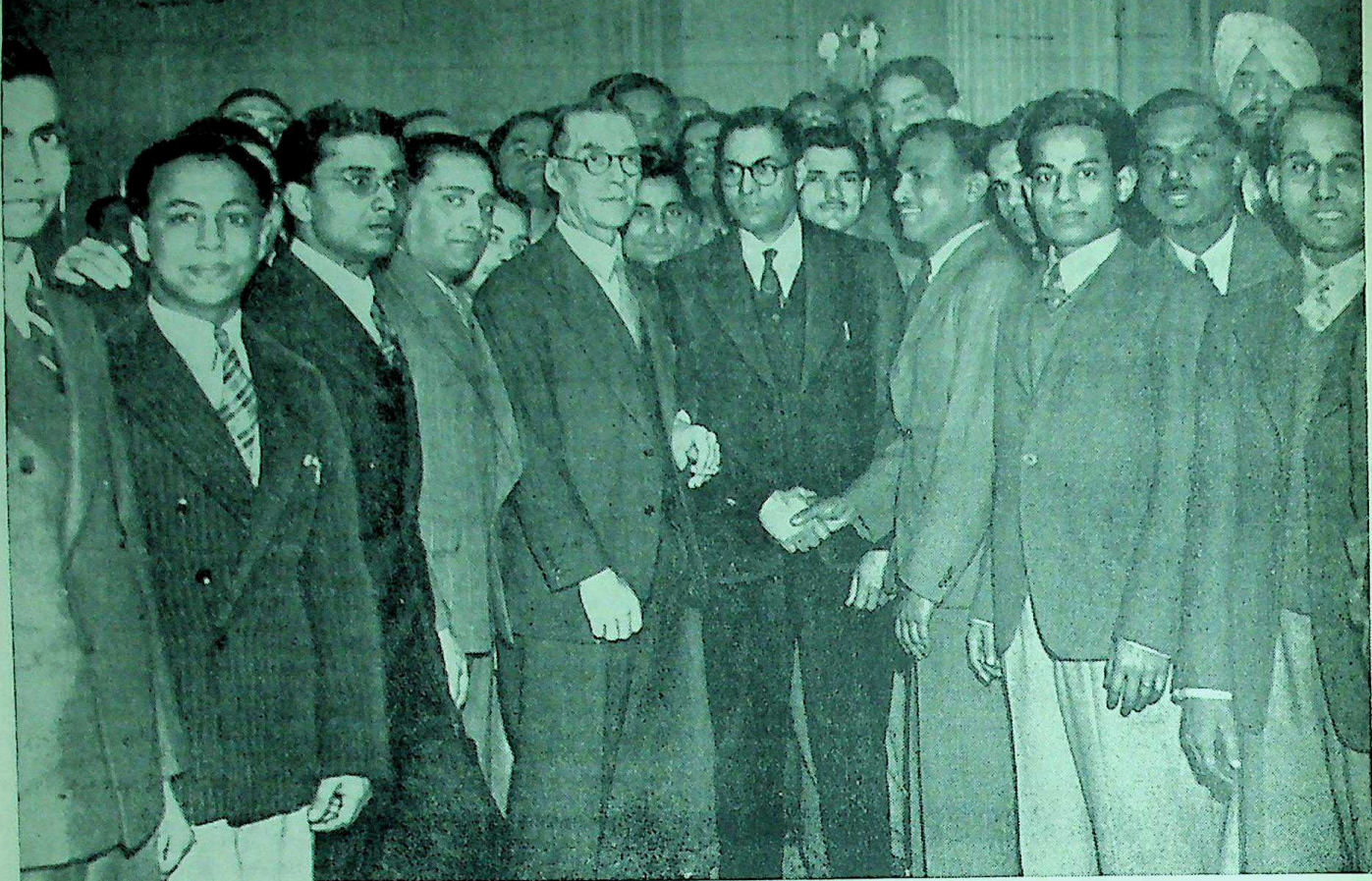
The Report remarks that publicity organised by the insurer is virtually given a free rein and points out that a great responsibility rests on insurers to ensure that their output is free from objectionable and misleading statements. "A share of responsibility," the Report stresses, "too falls on the editors of insurance journals; it should be the ideal of these gentlemen that the public should be able to place the fullest reliance on the statements they make in their papers, and this means that expressions of opinion should be given with the greatest caution."

It is explained that "So long as a company is not observing its valuation assumptions its position is bound to deteriorate—companies, therefore, which have succeeded in effecting a reduction in expense ratio should not rest on their oars but should realise that not only must they get down to the valuation provision but something must be done to restore to the policyholders' life fund the excessive expenditure that has continually been draining out of that fund so long as the valuation provision was being exceeded."

### Provident Societies

An extension is made in this Year Book to include summaries of accounts and valuations of Provident Societies. Speaking of the Inspections of Provident Societies under the provisions of Section 87 of the Act, the Year Book says that the reports of the Inspectors revealed a deplorable position of some of the societies and the unsatisfactory position of most. The cause for this may generally be attributed to the operation of unsound schemes which were not prepared on actuarial advice, coupled with improvident management which the premiums were never constructed to bear. It was also noticed that in many cases the management lacked even superficial knowledge not only of insurance matters but also of their most elementary legal obligations.





BEVIN BOYS WERE ENTERTAINED AT A LUNCHEON RECENTLY BY THE BRITISH COUNCIL. MR. S. LALL GREET THE PARTY

## INCREASED EARNINGS OF RETURNED BEVIN BOYS

**B**y taking technicians from industry in India and giving them an intensive training in British war factories, the Bevin Scheme has created a new class of "England returned" young Indian with  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times his former earning capacity measured in rupees.

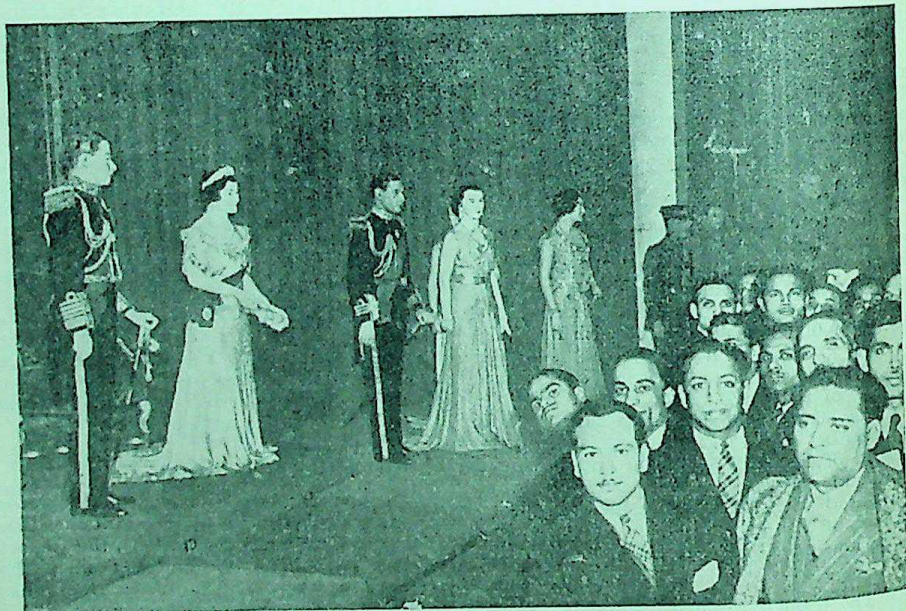
For out of 122 returned Bevin Boys who have completed their training 105 have secured employment and earn on an average 145 per cent more than they did before going to England. The remaining 17 have arrived recently and arrangements are being made to find posts for them.

As the usefulness of their training in England becomes more widely realised, the Bevin Boys are likely to find their market value rise progressively.

A few typical examples may be cited. A fitter, formerly working in Lahore on Rs. 75 p.m., has been appointed chargeman in an ordnance factory on Rs. 170 p.m. rising to Rs. 290 p.m., while another fitter from Sind, formerly drawing Rs. 70 p.m., has become a chargeman on Rs. 180 p.m. in another Government factory. A machinist originally getting Rs. 65 a month is now a supervisor on Rs. 155, while a fitter from a railway workshop in Bombay, whose monthly wage before he went to England was Rs. 140, is now an assistant foreman in an aircraft factory on Rs. 248. A turner and fitter formerly employed on a monthly salary of Rs. 75 in Bihar is now a chargeman in a railway workshop on Rs. 200.

### Emergency Commission For Improver

An improver who was receiving a daily wage of Rs. 2 in Madras before he went to England has recently obtained an Emergency Commission in the Corps of Indian Engineers. Another improver, also from Madras, has become chargeman in a war factory on



Bevin Boys visited the waxworks exhibition at Madame Tussaud's. Here, they are standing in front of the wax figures of the Royal Family

Rs. 200 p.m. and a trainee who was formerly a copper-and-tinsmith in a railway workshop in the Punjab on Rs. 35 a month is now a foreman in a notified factory on Rs. 200 per month.

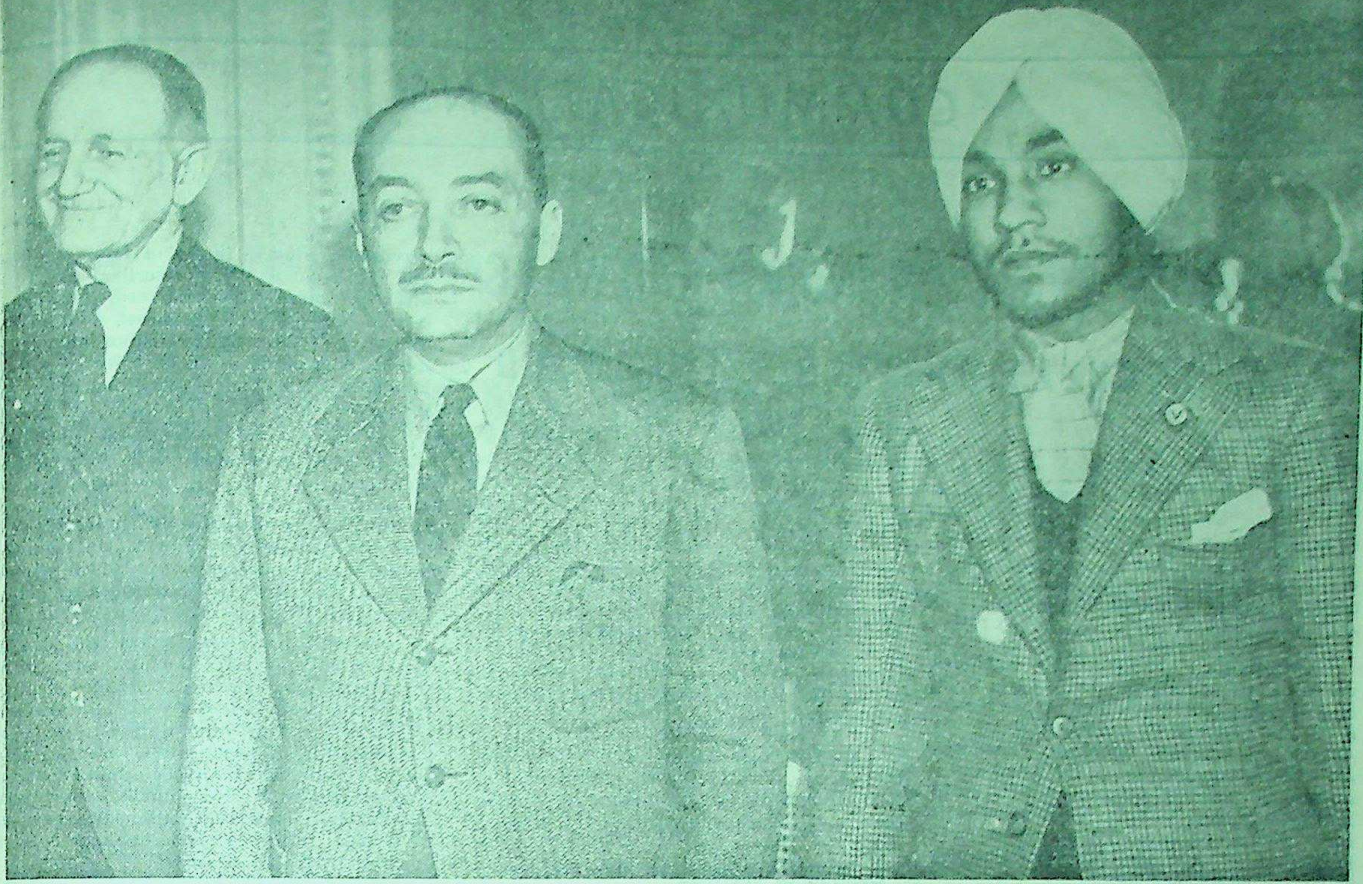
A fitter from Bengal whose monthly wage was Rs. 22 is now in the Military Engineering Service on, Rs. 150, while a welder from Bengal who previously earned Rs. 45 now draws Rs. 165 as an assistant foreman in an aircraft factory. Other

trainees have been absorbed in Military and R.I.N. establishments.

It is evident, therefore, that practically all the Bevin Boys are able to secure employment shortly after returning to India on salaries which represent a big improvement on their previous wages. By taking part in the scheme the men do not become Government servants, nor do the Government guarantee them employment, though efforts are made to get each man a job to his liking.

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 1, 1942





SENOR GONZALEZ MONTESINOS (CENTRE), A DISTINGUISHED MEXICAN, ALSO ATTENDED THE PARTY TO THE INDIAN TECHNICIANS

## BRITISH COUNCIL ENTERTAINS BEVIN BOYS IN LONDON

"In the interpretation of other countries to Great Britain you are in a position to help who have come here to gain experience which will be helpful to you in the job you are going to do in your own country for the common fight against aggression," said Sir Angus Gillan at a lunch given by the British Council at the Hyde Park Hotel, London, to the fourth batch of Bevin Boys recently.

Sir Angus added: "I believe that we must make a tremendous effort to achieve that mutual understanding between the nations which is the only firm foundation for a basis of lasting peace and a better world after the war."

The British Council is a semi-official body which attempts to make the life and thought of the British people better known abroad.

Its aims and plans were briefly explained by Sir Angus Gillan, Director of the Empire Division of the Council, in his speech of welcome to the trainees.

### The British Council

Sir Angus said: "I dare say a good many of you haven't heard much about the British Council. We haven't had the privilege yet of doing very much in Asia, an omission which I hope may be rectified in due course. Some of you may even say, 'Why has the British Council asked us to London today?'"

"Well, I am going to tell you first what the British Council is not. It is not a political organ, and though its objectives have the sympathy and support of His Majesty's Government, it has nothing to do with war propaganda which is the province of the Ministry of Information.

"Its job is the interpretation of British life and thought, the interpretation abroad (and in the term 'abroad' I include people



Mr. Goya replied on behalf of the Bevin Boys to the address of welcome delivered by Sir Angus Gillan at the luncheon

from overseas, who happen to be in this country) of what you might call the British way of life. We don't cram it down other peoples' throats as the Germans, the Italians, and the Japanese do, but we believe it has a contribution to make to those who may wish to study it, to adapt it to what they think may suit their conditions of life and to discard what does not appeal to them.

"Before the war (we only started six or seven years ago—I wish it had been

fifty years ago) the British Council was represented in some forty countries abroad by institutes, anglophile societies, libraries, by the distribution of periodicals and books, films, arrangements for dramas, tours, lectures and so on.

"Many of these activities, I am sorry to say, have ceased for the present, and instead of our friends voluntarily studying the British way of life they are compulsorily

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 386]



# COMMUNICATIONS

## HOURS OF WORK ON INDIAN RAILWAYS HOW REGULATIONS ARE ENFORCED

**H**ow the hours of work, rest periods and payments for overtime work of half a million workers on eleven of India's railway systems are safeguarded is brought out in the Report on the working of the Hours of Employment Regulations of the Conciliation Officer (Railways) and Supervisor of Railway Labour for the year 1940-41.

Out of nearly 610,000 workers employed on all Class I Railways in British India and enjoying the protection of the International Labour Conventions, as many as 485,000 are covered by the Hours of Employment Regulations. During the year under review the staff of the Supervisor of Railway Labour inspected no fewer than 6,300 railway establishments, carrying out routine inspections as well as special investigations on specific problems.

### Classification Of Staffs

Much time went to the classification of railway staffs, Inspectors objecting to nearly 400 cases of classification. The M. & S. M. Railway had contended that their Watch and Ward Jamadars and Section Mates did not come under the Regulations as their duties were of a supervisory nature. A similar argument was used by the B.B. & C.I. Railway in respect of their Watch and Ward Overseers. As the Supervisor of Railway Labour differed from the two railway administrations, a ruling was obtained from the Government of India in the year under report giving the staff concerned the benefit of the Regulations. This decision

necessitated employment of additional staff on the B.B. & C.I. Railway alone involving an average yearly expenditure of Rs. 17,000.

An Inspector of Railway Labour was deputed to investigate whether Station Masters and Assistant Station Masters at comparatively small stations on the E. I. Railway had been unjustifiably classified as Supervisory Staff and that a large number of inferior staff had been denied the benefits of the Regulations. His report was under preparation.

At the suggestion of the Department, the M. & S. M. Railway agreed to their Refreshment Room Managers obtaining the benefit of the Regulations, so far denied to them.

### "Continuous Workers"

Another factor affecting the number of men coming under the Regulations was the proportion of "continuous workers" to "essentially intermittent" staff. As the limiting hours of work prescribed are 60 hours a week on an average for "continuous workers" and 84 hours a week for "essentially intermittent workers," the fact that the percentages of "continuous workers" have increased on five of the seven railways for which figures are available while those on the other two have remained stationary is satisfactory.

The Supervisor of Railway Labour observes that the power vested in railways to make temporary exemptions of railway

servants from the limits of hours of work and periods of rest prescribed—a power often delegated to subordinates—has led to certain objectionable features, notably the failure of the delegate-subordinates to maintain records. This affects railway labour as claims for overtime depend on the maintenance of correct records.

While all railway workers other than those "essentially intermittent," are entitled to a rest period of not less than 24 hours at a stretch each week, the Supervisor of Railway Labour notes with satisfaction that on most of the railways an increased percentage of the staff enjoy each week a calendar day's rest—which means in practice more than 24 consecutive hours off duty.

According to the Report the evil of working outside rostered hours seems to be widespread and chronic. Detailed instructions have been issued by the Government of India to railway administrations to eliminate extra roster work as far as possible, but the Conciliation Officer admits that the employment of workers outside their usual daily hours depends on circumstances which a railway administration cannot always control, especially in wartime.

The Report observes that Railway Unions continued to take an active interest in the enforcement of the Hours of Employment Regulations. There is, however, scope for close collaboration between the Department and Railway Trade Unions, which the Supervisor of Railway Labour feels will be achieved in time.

## RAIL RECEIPTS

The Standing Finance Committee for Railways met at New Delhi on September 29, 1942. Among the more important items discussed by the Committee were the abolition of the Lower Gazetted Service on Indian State Railways, the provision of additional facilities between Gitaldah and Amingaon, Golakganj and Dhubri at an estimated cost of Rs. 32,71,560 and the machinery requirements of the Railways costing Rs. 38½ lakhs for the year 1943-44.

Consideration of the first item was postponed to their next meeting while the other two were sanctioned. The Committee also approved certain minor proposals regarding creation of posts on Railways.

### Traffic Earnings

Mr. I. S. Puri, the Chairman of the Committee, also explained to the meeting the up-to-date position in regard to traffic earnings and working expenses of Railways. The Committee was gratified to learn that up to September 10, 1942, the gross receipts were Rs. 7.75 crores more than the actuals for the corresponding period of the previous year and Rs. 15.93 crores more than the actuals for the corresponding period of 1940-41. The figures for working expenses which were only available up to July 31, 1942, amount to Rs. 19.69 crores which is Rs. 158 lakhs more than the figure for the corresponding period of the previous year and an excess over the budgeted provision of Rs. 152 lakhs.

The Chairman also explained that in the three ten-day periods following the recent civil disturbances there had been a slight increase in coaching earnings but a decrease of Rs. 87 lakhs under receipts from Goods traffic, the drop on the E. I. Railway being Rs. 53 lakhs and on the State portion of B. & N. W. Railway, Rs. 6 lakhs.

## REPAYMENT OF RAILWAY ANNUITIES

**I**n pursuance of their policy of progressively repatriating sterling debt, the Government of India have entered into an agreement with His Majesty's Government whereby the Government of India, by payment of a capital sum, have assured provision of funds necessary to meet future payments in respect of Sterling Railway Annuities.

The aggregate amount of Annuity payments which remain to be made after October 1, 1942, is £34,114,654. The various Purchase Acts specifically impose the liability for payment of the Annuities on the revenues of India.

### An Investment

In return for an immediate lump sum capital payment of £30,054,250, His Majesty's Government have undertaken to make available to the Government of India, sums equal to the instalments of the several Annuities as and when they fall due so that the Government of India may continue to discharge their legal obligations unimpaired during the whole currency of the liabilities.

The payment by the Government of India represents in effect an investment at

2½ per cent realisable by varying instalments over a period.

The new arrangements do not in any way alter the contractual relationship between the Government of India and the Annuitants but as a result of them no provision will require to be made from Indian revenues in connection with Railway Annuities.

### Financial Arrangements

Arrangements have been made by the Government of India with the Reserve Bank of India for financing the above-mentioned payment through ways and means, advances and the issue of *ad hoc* Treasury Bills against release of sterling from the Issue Department of the Bank, which will be liquidated in due course.

To assist the financing of this operation a re-issue of the 3 per cent Loan, 1963-65, for Rs. 15 crores has been announced. The new issue was available to the public up to October 15, inclusive, if the lists were not closed earlier, at a price of Rs. 95 per cent.

Applications were received at any office of the Reserve Bank of India through a scheduled bank or a recognised broker.



## CENTRAL LEGISLATURE

## SIR RICHARD TOTTENHAM ON PRESS RESTRICTIONS IN INDIA

In the Council of State on September 24, Sir Richard Tottenham, Secretary, Home Department, replying to Pundit Hirday Nath Kunzru who had moved a resolution urging the modification of the restrictions imposed on the Press, said:

Sir, when I received notice of this Resolution I assumed—and I think from its wording I was entitled to assume—that it was mainly concerned with restrictions imposed by or under the law on the Press in India. That is strictly a Home Department subject, and my Department is responsible. The Hon'ble Mover and various speakers have referred to certain other matters which go beyond the immediate province of the Home Department, but as I am answering on behalf of the Government I will do my best, to begin with, to deal shortly with those matters.

**Press Advising**

In the first place, the Hon'ble Mover referred to Press advice and he gave one or two examples of what I must admit appeared to me to be rather unintelligent Press advising. Press advising is not the concern of the Home Department. It is the concern of the Information Department; and all I can say is that nobody is compelled to ask for Press advice and nobody is compelled to accept that advice when it is tendered. But in so far as those particular examples may be indicative of, shall I say, undue zeal on the part of Press Advisers, I have no doubt that the Information Department and my friend, Sir Frederick Puckle, will be prepared to look into the matter and to issue such instructions as he considers necessary.

Then, Sir, in the next place, the Hon'ble Mover and other members have referred to the restrictions on foreign correspondents. That again, Sir, is not a Home Department matter. We have no power whatever to control the messages of foreign correspondents. The only power that does exist for that purpose is the military censorship and it is a rule, which is observed here and elsewhere, that the operations of the censorship must for very good reasons be kept secret and not be discussed. I would, however, remind the House that all Press messages which leave this country do so by 'Beam' wireless. That is to say, they can all be overheard by the enemy and that is a particular aspect of the matter and that the military censors must naturally bear in mind when they are dealing with outgoing messages.

**U. S. Pressman's Views**

The Hon'ble Mover, I think, suggested that an assurance had been given to foreign correspondents that their messages would not be altered without their consent. That is not true. No such assurance has been, or could have been, given, because that would completely nullify the operations of the censorship. What is done is that

Press correspondents are invited to bring their messages, discuss them with the authorities concerned and get alterations made as far as possible by consent; but in the last resort naturally the censor must be able to say "this cannot go."

Now, Sir, I think it may interest the House if I were to read to them the views of an eminent American Press Correspondent in an interview which he gave on A.I.R. only a few days ago. He is the correspondent of International News and a very well-known man. He was asked in this interview: "How about Government censorship here?" And he replied: "That's a tough question. Not because there's anything unusual about the censorship in India, but because few reporters have ever been known to have a good word to say for any censor. And yet in all fairness your question forces me to admit that our particular brigands of the blue pencil here are not such a wicked lot as they are sometimes painted. For instance, take the recent A.I.C.C. (All-India Congress Committee) meeting in Bombay and the subsequent days of rioting. The censorship during these trying days was as intelligent and as liberal as I have ever seen it in any country."

**An Allegation Denied**

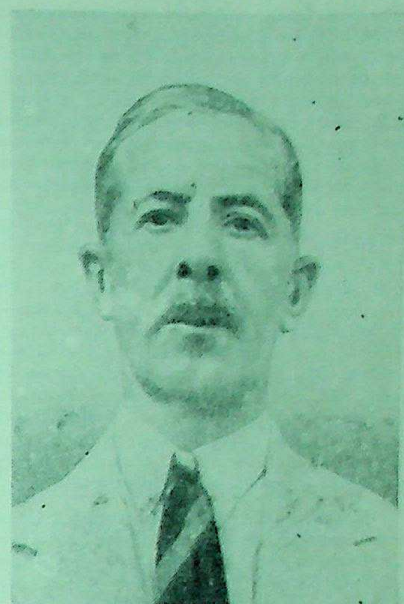
That comes from a responsible American Press correspondent. He was then asked "Did America get a full and accurate story of these disturbances?" He went on: "I know that America did get a complete and accurate picture of happenings during the opening days of the disturbances, but don't ask me to give these or any other censors full marks. That is like asking a ball player to kiss the umpire."

Well, Sir, that comes from one of the men on whose behalf the Hon'ble Member has been complaining.

Then there is one further point to which I must refer in this connection. The Hon'ble the Mover alleged that some messages, some speech, by President Roosevelt had been interfered with by the authorities in this country so as to omit a reference to India and to the Atlantic Charter. That allegation was made some time ago. It was very carefully investigated and I can assure this House positively and categorically that no utterance by President Roosevelt—either that utterance or any other utterance—has ever had even a single word altered by any authority in this country.

The Hon'ble Pundit Hirday Nath Kunzru: When was this investigation made?

The Hon'ble Sir Richard Tottenham: I cannot tell the exact date but it was made some time ago. We made every attempt to find a basis for the allegation and we were quite unable to discover it. I can repeat absolutely positively that no cutting of any speech or statement by



SIR RICHARD TOTTENHAM

President Roosevelt has ever been done by any authority in India.

Now, Sir, I will turn to what I may call my own—Home Department—subject. I realise that any question affecting the treatment of the Press is apt to be controversial. I should, therefore, like to begin by asking the House to take it from me that any action that we or any Government in India may have felt ourselves compelled to take against the Press has not been taken light-heartedly, but only after weighing most carefully what we regard as the public interest on the one hand and what we admit to be the rights of the Press on the other. If the Hon'ble Members who have spoken could have sat alongside us during the long discussions that we in the Home Department and the Information Department have had from time to time with editors and representatives of the Press—discussions which I can assure the House have almost invariably proceeded in a most friendly spirit—I think they would agree with me that we have consistently tried our best to respect the rights of responsible editors and to appreciate their point of view. I claim, Sir, that that is a view that would be endorsed by a very large number of editors themselves, although they have had their differences with us and we have not been able to see eye to eye with them on many occasions.

**Policy Towards Press**

After all, Sir, everybody knows the importance of the Press and the very great influence that the Press possesses; and Government is not so unintelligent as to ignore the expediency—I put it no higher than that—the expediency of maintaining good relations with the Press, especially in time of war. I do honestly maintain, whatever anyone may say, that our policy has been, and always will be, to maintain and, if possible, to improve those relations.



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I do also honestly believe that ever since the Advisory Committee system was introduced nearly two years ago, whatever difficulties and setbacks that system may have encountered—and those difficulties have not been entirely the creation of Provincial Governments—I do claim that that system has produced one result at least of outstanding value to both parties. It has brought representatives of Government and representatives of the Press into personal contact with each other across the table. Closer and more intimate personal relations have thus been established than was ever the case before.

Indeed, Sir, I should like to take this opportunity to pay a tribute to the very great help and understanding that we have received from many eminent editors—Mr. Srinivasan of the *Hindu*, his two namesakes of *Swadesamitran* and the *Free Press Journal*, Mr. Francis Low of the *Times of India*, Mr. Brelvi of the *Bombay Chronicle*, and others. I feel, Sir, that we have got to know each other and to respect each other's points of view; and that, I maintain, is a result of great value and importance.

Moreover, Sir, the Government of India have had the benefit of having had since the beginning of the war two gentlemen as their Chief Press Advisers—first, Mr. Desmond Young and then Mr. Kirchner—both of whom are newspaper men who, I believe, are liked, respected and trusted by all editors in this country.

## Constitutional Position

Now, Sir, there is another general remark I should like to make and that is that the House must realise that the subject "Books, Newspapers and Presses" occurs in Part I of the Concurrent Legislative List in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution Act, which means that both the Central Legislature and a Provincial Legislature are competent to make laws on that subject, but that the administration of those laws is a provincial concern. The Central Government may and do suggest policy to Provincial Governments but we are not in a position to execute that policy ourselves in a Province and we must leave Provincial Governments discretion to carry out their responsibilities.

Moreover, Sir, the responsibility of a Provincial Government in deciding what may be published or may not be published is different in kind from the responsibility of an editor. An editor conceives it to be his duty to give facts to the public and his views about those facts. A Provincial Government must see that the publication of those facts and those views does not offend against the law and, when it is a question of disturbances of the peace, a Provincial Government must also judge the effect on the law and order situation of the publication of such news or views.

## Censorship Of News

Now, Sir, with these preliminary observations I turn to the Resolution itself and what the Hon'ble the Mover and those who followed him said about it. In the first place, let me express my gratitude to him and them for admitting that some censorship of news is necessary for military reasons. That, Sir, is a fact that we all recognise, but it does very considerably narrow the field of possible criticism. That is to say, I take it that their position is not that censorship in itself is necessarily

an unwarrantable interference with the liberty of the Press but that censorship for certain purposes is wrong. Let us then consider the purposes for which any kind of restriction was placed on news connected with the Congress movement and the disturbances that followed. The Hon'ble the Home Member, speaking in another place, explained that our purposes were twofold.

We had to deny publicity to a good deal that occurred, at the time when it occurred, first because, if it had been known, it would have provided the Japanese with a direct invitation to invade this country; and secondly because disturbances are infectious, and news of what has occurred here or there may produce a repetition or imitation of those events in other parts of the country which otherwise might have remained quiet.

## Two Objects

As to the first of these two objects, I take it that the Hon'ble Member agrees with me that some restriction of news is necessary: but perhaps he does not realise quite how much news and what kinds of news may be of interest or value to the enemy. I admit, Sir, that I myself was most anxious to publish a great deal more news of this movement, for I felt—and I think it is obvious—that the more news we could put out, the better and the more advantageous it would be from the Government's own point of view as showing what we were up against and as justifying the measures that we had to take. But the Military authorities came to us and said 'no': and when we discussed the matter with them we had to admit that they were right. There were many things—interruption of communications and others—which the Military authorities pointed out it would be of great value to the enemy to know; and the House realises of course that a very large part of the disturbances themselves consisted in interruptions of communications of one kind or another.

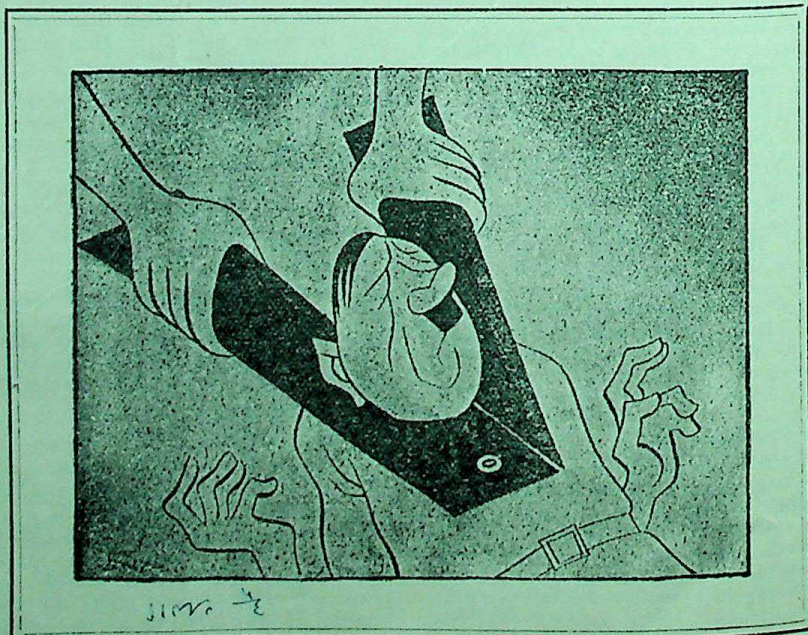
Now, Sir, as regards the second object—what I may call the imitation object—I admit that two views are possible. There

are those—I am not sure whether the Hon'ble the Mover is one of them—who hold that these disturbances were spontaneous and not organised. Well, Sir, if that were so, surely the danger of imitation was a very grave one. In any case the view that was represented to us from many different quarters—Provincial Governments, Military authorities and others—was that the amount of news published was having a very bad effect in other parts of the country.

Then, Sir, the second view—and that is the view which we ourselves have now held for some time—is that these disturbances were not spontaneous but organised. In that view it might be argued that the imitation danger did not exist. But assuming that things were happening according to plan, surely it would have been of immense value to the authors of that plan to know from the newspapers exactly how their plan was proceeding in different parts of India. In fact, Sir, we come back to argument No. 1. We start by saying that we must not give information that may be of value to the enemy; but the question on this occasion was who was the enemy? Was it only the Japanese outside? Was there not another enemy in India, and did we not have a duty and a right to prevent him from receiving information of value in exactly the same way as we should try to prevent the Japanese? I do strongly maintain, Sir, and I hope that the House will support me in this, that from both these points of view some control of the news was absolutely necessary.

## Nature Of Control

Now, Sir, let me turn to the nature of that control. So far as the Central Government are concerned, there has only been one general order issued under the Defence of India Rules. It was issued on August 8, the day on which the All-India Congress Committee sanctioned a mass movement. That order prohibited the publication of any factual news relating to that movement except what was derived from Government sources or from recognised Press agencies or from recognised Press correspondents, who for the purpose of obtaining that





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recognition, were required to register themselves with District Magistrates. Now, Sir, the House will observe that that order imposed no kind of restriction on the publication of any particular category of news. It merely secured control over the origins of news, and it was designed to secure that whatever news was published came from reputable and reliable sources.

The Press agencies themselves willingly agreed to submit their messages on this subject for Press advice to the authority best qualified to give it, that is to say, the man on the spot where the events took place. We hoped that Press correspondents would do the same; but they were under no legal obligation to do so. Of course, if they did not and if they sent messages to their papers which contained unauthenticated news or news of a definitely objectionable kind, we had our remedy. We could cancel the registration of that correspondent with the result that all messages from him on that particular subject would in future be illegal. Now people may say that this was merely a roundabout way of imposing pre-censorship; and I agree that there is some weight in that criticism.

#### "A Matter Of Opinion"

On the other hand, the order to which I have just referred did not impose pre-censorship directly on any editor or correspondent. It did give discretion to all responsible editors and all responsible correspondents; and there are a number of papers which have found it quite possible to comply with the order, and at the same time to publish a very fair amount of news connected with the movement. Indeed, Sir, I have yet to hear of one single item of news about these disturbances which has been suppressed and which it really would have been in the public interest not to suppress. The Hon'ble Mr. Kunzru referred to the case of the Benares University. Sir, that is a matter of opinion. I personally believe that it would not have been in the public interest at the time to publish the reasons why certain drastic action had to be taken. But the news was not suppressed. A full account has already appeared in the Press—I think I am right in saying—in the *Hindu* of Madras about September 15.

The Hon'ble Mr. Sapru also referred to the speech of Mr. Gandhi. Well, that of course did not come under the order to which I have just referred concerning factual news relating to the mass movement. It may have been submitted for Press advice by a Press Agency and it may have been the Press Agency themselves—I am not sure about this—I have not had time to verify it—who decided not to publish the whole of that speech in the papers.

#### Editorial Comment

Now, Sir, the House will also note another point about this order of ours. It refers only to factual news. It imposes no kind of restriction on editorial comment. In that most important respect we did leave entire discretion to the editors. But we held a Press Conference at which the position was explained, and it was made clear that if any editor did overstep the limit of legitimate criticism, naturally he would have to accept liability for the consequences. That Press Conference was presided over by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar in the regrettable absence of the Home Member who was at the time ill.

If he had not been ill, he would have attended.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar made it perfectly clear at that conference that there was no ban of any kind on the expression of political views as such. Indeed, Sir, I venture to think that any impartial observer coming to this country and reading our newspapers would agree that the Press in this country enjoys a very wide latitude in the nature of the political views and criticisms of Government that they publish.

#### Supplementary Orders

Now, Sir, apart from this general order issued by the Government of India, I am well aware that a number of supplementary orders has been issued from time to time by various Provincial Governments, a few against individual papers—I believe not more than four in the whole of India—and a certain number of a more general nature limiting the size or character of headlines or the amount of news on this topic that could be published. I do not know the exact circumstances in which each of these orders was passed by the Provincial Governments and therefore I cannot say here and now whether each one was fully justified. But, judging from our own experience in Delhi, I have no reason whatever to believe that these orders were not necessary.

What, Sir, can one think of a paper in Delhi which not only published entirely false allegations about the behaviour of troops without taking any trouble whatever to verify them, but also went out of its way to issue a leader complaining that the Press was being gagged and that news was being suppressed and yet, in the very issue which contained this leader, devoted more than half of its news columns to sensational and highly coloured accounts of the disturbances that were taking place in the country?

#### A Congress Circular

I am afraid, Sir, the plain fact is that a certain section of the Press in India—and I am glad to think it is not more than a very small section—have made up their minds to support this movement at all costs. We have in our possession a Congress Circular issued in the United Provinces towards the beginning of August which definitely instructed Congressmen, if the leaders were arrested, to look to certain papers, which were named, for further instructions as to how to carry on. That is to say, certain papers were specified as the agents of the Congress Party for the purpose of pursuing this movement. That particular section of the Press, making an excuse of the restrictions imposed, but really, I have no doubt whatever, as a political move designed to bring pressure on, and to embarrass, the Government, decided to suspend publication. I am glad to think that they have failed in their attempt to embarrass the Government.

At present I understand that not more than 50 papers or so are out of publication out of a total of several thousand newspapers in India, and, as far as I can see, the absence of these papers has not made any very great difference. The only effect I can imagine it has had, unless the papers have been subsidised by political funds, is that they have put out of employment a number of people whose living depended on the work they were doing for these papers. That small section of the Press is a section

with whom we have found it impossible to do business.

On the other hand, when at the Editors' Conference held the other day the more responsible and reasonable editors approached us and said that they took exception to that part of our general order which affected the relations between an editor and his correspondents, we said that we were quite prepared to meet them in every way we could; and it was they, not we, who suggested that, if they could not be left with complete freedom to publish anything they liked, it would be better for Government to arrange for all matter on this subject to be submitted for scrutiny by a specified authority and also to arrange for representatives of the Press themselves to be associated with that authority in carrying out that scrutiny. I do not mean to say that the Press volunteered to accept pre-censorship. What they did say was, "If we cannot be allowed to publish everything at our own wish—and some of them agreed that that was impossible—then we think this is a more direct and more satisfactory method of doing it than your method." We accepted that proposal.

#### The Present Position

I admit that personally I have never been very much in favour of pre-censorship, but that was what we were asked to do and we accepted the proposal so far as the Chief Commissioner's Provinces were concerned, and we recommended it to all Provincial Governments. The present position, I understand, is that certain Provincial Governments have accepted it and in those provinces we have cancelled our original order. Certain other Provincial Governments are considering it, and certain further Provincial Governments in consultation with their editors have decided that they do not want to change the system. They prefer to remain under our original order which they have not found irksome or in any way unworkable.

As regards Delhi itself, it is perfectly true that the new system has not yet come into full operation, but that is not our fault. So long ago as September 6, the Advisory Committee here was asked to nominate representatives of the Press to be associated with the Scrutinising Officer and the Chief Commissioner tells me that he has not yet received any reply.

#### Two Reasons

Well, Sir, I am conscious that within the time at my disposal I may not have been able to deal fully and completely with this very intricate subject, but I do hope I have said enough to convince the House that we are not unreasonable, although we are not in a position to accept this Resolution. We cannot accept it for two reasons.

First, because most of the restrictive orders now in existence are orders passed by Provincial Governments and we cannot accept the cancellation of those orders on their behalf. That must be done by consultation with them.

In the second place, we cannot accept the Resolution, because I believe that if all restrictions were withdrawn immediately, a certain section of the Press would take advantage of that to endeavour to work up enthusiasm and popular feeling for this movement which I think would be most regrettable. On the other hand, I do

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## SIR SULTAN AHMED'S STATEMENT ON THE INDIAN POLITICAL SITUATION

Here is the full text of the speech delivered by the Hon'ble Sir Syed Sultan Ahmed, Law Member to the Government of India, in the Central Legislative Assembly on September 18:

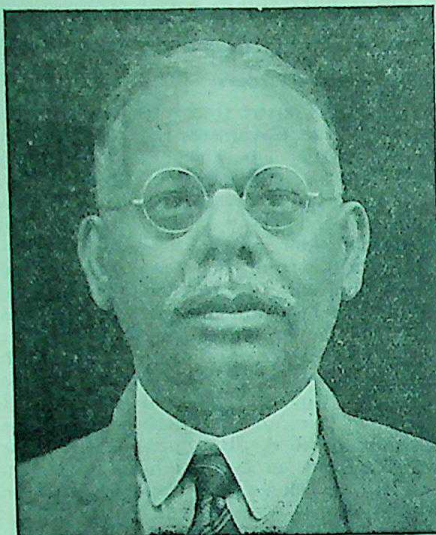
It was neither my intention nor even my desire that I should take part in this debate as a full statement had been made by the Hon'ble the Home Member on the present situation, and I and all my colleagues take the fullest responsibility for the same. But lest our silence be misconstrued, and as one of the speakers had suggested that we were nonentities, it is necessary that one of the nonentities also should say what he feels about the situation.

I have got another reason which has impelled me to make a few remarks. I come from a Province which has been shattered badly by recent events, and though I am thankful to say that law and order have been to a great extent restored, I cannot say that we are still out of the woods. Coming as I do from that Province, I felt this morning that it would be unwise not to say anything during this debate. A province famous for its potential wealth, its fertile soil which is rightly held as the granary of India, is now the scene of partial devastation, some idea of which has been given to the House by the Hon'ble the Home Member.

#### "A Challenge"

I never regretted the decision which I, along with all my colleagues, took on August 8, because placed as we were, we had to choose between abdication of our responsibilities as Government and surrender to the challenge that had been thrown out to us. And now, after all that has happened, we feel convinced that our decision was right. We made it perfectly clear in the Resolution that we issued, that we were aware of the preparations that were being made in the name or on behalf of the Congress for the various acts of sabotage, and if there was any doubt about the accuracy of the estimate that we had made of the situation at that time, that doubt is completely dispelled by the events that have happened. Sir Cowasjee Jehangir has referred to the speech of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on August 2, and the Hon'ble Members must have read the statements and speeches of others, from which it was obvious that whatever the Mahatma's faith was, nobody else believed that the non-violent civil disobedience movement, which the Congress threatened was or could be non-violent, if the Congress programme was put into operation as it was done. The House knows the result.

It has been suggested that we should have waited for the letter of Mahatma Gandhi to His Excellency the Viceroy. We, however, knew of the advice conveyed to Mahatma Gandhi from different quarters of the unwisdom of coupling the demand of independence of India forthwith with the threat of launching civil disobedience if it was not conceded. But Mahatma Gandhi was out to force everybody's hands. We



HON'BLE SIR SULTAN AHMED, LAW MEMBER

knew he had overruled the wishes of some of the important members of the Working Committee who wanted to take a more moderate course. We knew that his more militant associates had defined what this mass civil disobedience would be.

#### "Too Late In The Day....."

We also had the advice of Provincial Governors warning us of the grave dangers of any delay in taking action, and subsequent events showed that they were right. Under those circumstances no Government with any sense of responsibility could have possibly waited a minute longer after the ratification by the All-India Congress Committee of the Resolution of the Working Committee. Could any Government under those circumstances agree to negotiate with a party who came with certain demands in its right hand and a pistol in the left? It is too late in the day now for anyone to make the impossible attempt to absolve the Congress from the full responsibility of all that has happened in this country.

Some of the Hon'ble Members have suggested that we should have taken the action immediately after the Working Committee Resolution. Perhaps they are all right. But our reason for proceeding cautiously was that unless the Working Committee Resolution was finally accepted by the All-India Congress Committee, it was not a Resolution which was the final word of the Congress, and I apprehend we would have been accused of having taken action on no decision of the Congress but simply on an incomplete proposal which could have been turned down by the All-India Congress Committee. Before the ink was dry on the All-India Congress Committee Resolution, the whole of India was in flames, and the acts of destruction followed with lightning rapidity and virulence almost unparalleled in the history of this country, and it is most remarkable that the movement was the most violent in provinces where the Congress Ministries had functioned before they went out of office.

Another extraordinary feature of this movement has been—and which demonstrates beyond any doubt that it was well planned and well directed—that throughout this movement no looters, rioters or rebels attacked Muslim life or property. All that was done could not have been done by professional dacoits or looters because they do not discriminate between Muslim and Hindu victims, nor do they discriminate between private and public property. The whole objective was to paralyse the Administration and thereby paralyse the war efforts. And this had to be done in the Axis fashion of *blitz*.

The Government had to be on the defensive from the very first day. Their only duty was to prevent the extension of the crimes of sabotage. If being on the defensive, when there is a widespread rebellion, is repression, Government plead guilty to it, but if what they did was to save the country from the danger of the gravest disaster possible, then what they did was in the normal discharge of their functions as Government.

We are convinced that in the discharge of their extraordinarily difficult and perilous duties, the police and the troops as a whole have not committed excesses, but if there are individual cases which have occurred, it will be the function of the Provincial Government to see that those who have been guilty of excesses do not escape punishment.

#### Cripps Proposals

Now, Sir, I come to another aspect of the question referred to by a number of Hon'ble Members. They are disappointed that the Government have not produced any constructive programme of reforms to deal with the situation. Faced as we are, I am surprised that such a demand is made from the Government. Let me repeat what I have said before, that the rebellion is still not completely quelled. There are still places where law and order have not been fully restored. But we hope that a reaction has set in amongst the general public against the barbarities and excesses committed by the rebels, and the recrudescence of the mob rule is being resisted by the inhabitants of the devastated areas themselves. Under those circumstances to expect that Government will sit down to consider constructive measures—whatever the meaning of this phrase may be—is, to say the least of it, exceedingly unreasonable.

Apart from that, the Cripps proposals were, and today remain, the constructive proposals put forward by His Majesty's Government. That unfortunately has been spurned. Let me frankly tell the House that the acceptance of those proposals, in my opinion, would have resulted in the 'swaraj' for which India had been longing. But they were rejected on the ostensible ground of Viceroy's veto, and so on.

Has it ever been realised that the Convention which the Congress demanded would have come in as a matter of course, once the sanction of the representatives of



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the people is present? Conventions would not be Conventions if they were put on the statute, or for which there was an express agreement. Conventions grow up as all customary rules do in sensible gradations. Some small deviation from the precedent itself becomes a precedent; so the Constitution broadens. Conventions do not supersede the law; they merely determine in certain eventualities how legal power shall be exercised.

In England, the greatest changes of the Constitution have not been brought about by legislative enactments. Whilst the legal code has remained substantially unaltered, there has grown up by its side a purely unwritten and conventional code. As Dicey puts it, "the object of Conventions is to secure obedience to the deliberately expressed will of the representatives of the people, and therefore the ultimate will of the nation." In England, neither the Prime Minister nor the Cabinet is known to law, and yet the whole system of Parliamentary government hinges on the working of the Cabinet, that is, on the collective responsibility of certain members of the Executive to Parliament and to the nation for the conduct of public affairs.

Then, again, are the constructive measures only to be initiated by the Government, and have the Hon'ble Members who have collected here no part or share in it? May I appeal to them not to go back to their homes without making some tangible contribution to the constructive measures which will command a fair measure of agreement. The greatest danger and futility of any criticism is to ignore the complexity of this problem. Once that is realised, it is possible to find the remedy. Sir, in this House is fully represented the genius, the intellect and patriotism of the country. Is it too much to hope that they, who still dominate the public life of this country, will not fail to produce an agreed programme? They should not suffer from inferiority complex. Any proposal which has the unanimous support of the Hon'ble Members opposite cannot be lightly treated by any Government here or in England.

## "National Government"

But if the House wants the Government to impose upon the country a Constitution irrespective of the agreement of the Parties during the extraordinarily critical period we are passing through, it will be neither fair to itself nor to the country. Hon'ble Members have been talking about 'national government,' and that is the cry which is coming from all corners of India. But is it realised that national government cannot be imposed but it must be the creation of the fairly unanimous will of the people? With the consent of all parties, it comes in automatically in places where there is a Government of the people by the people.

In places where there is a foreign Government, it has to be first formed by the people themselves, and the proposal is submitted to the Government of the day, and if denied, the so formed national government asserts its will. And I can't conceive that if such a Government is formed, His Majesty's Government can possibly resist it. But remember, this national government has to satisfy one test—crucial test at the present time—and that is that its main purpose today is to resist the enemies with the last drop of its blood. It has to resist them as the Russians are resisting the Germans. Civilised humanity—and I claim

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## MR. ANEY'S REPLY TO THE DEBATE

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney, Member for Indians Overseas, winding up the debate in the Central Legislative Assembly on the political situation in India on September 18, 1942, said:

Sir, the debate for the motion which was placed before this House by my Honourable colleague, Sir Reginald Maxwell, has gone on for four days and during these four days expressions of opinion have been given by a large number of Members. I find that those opinions disclose a good deal of diversity which it is not easy to reconcile even by a person endowed with much greater ingenuity than I myself can claim to have.

One of the reasons why I have got up to speak today is that the Hon'ble the Home Member, who should have properly been the person to wind up this debate, is unfortunately lying ill and is unable to attend. So, I have to perform that work for him. The second thing was that my Hon'ble friend, Sardar Sant Singh, in his speech on the amendment that he moved, made a remark at the very outset that he was shocked that the Resolution was not moved by the Leader of the House. I want to minimise the effect of that shock if possible even at this late stage.

### Two Points

Sir, what I have mainly to bear in mind in winding up this debate is to pick out a few points which require a reply, apart from the broad issues that have been raised in the debate by some of the important speakers in the House. The debate has naturally centred upon two points—the advisability of the step taken by the Government in arresting the Congress members and Mahatma Gandhi after they passed the Resolution of the All-India Congress Committee, and, secondly, the manner in which the policy has been carried out. That was one part of the criticism.

The second part of the criticism is the very broad issue of the constitutional problems of India. This is a problem which for the last three years has puzzled and baffled the statesmanship of the most veteran politicians in India.

### "Very Uncommon Situation"

Now, Sir, in the first part to which I have made reference, I shall take the latter portion of that part, namely, the manner in which this policy of the Government has been executed at present! A number of points have been made by certain speakers to show how in executing the present policy and making an effort to put down the disturbances, excesses have been committed in many places, and instances have been given by certain Members.

Now, it is not claimed by anybody that, in the big efforts which the Government of India have to make through the Provincial Governments to put down the disturbances scattered over the whole country, there would be no place where somebody did not commit some indiscretion.

It is difficult to make a sweeping statement like that. All we have been claiming is this, that the authorities who are entrusted with this work have to meet a very



HON'BLE MR. M. S. ANEY,  
MEMBER FOR INDIANS OVERSEAS

uncommon situation. It is not easy to put down riotous assemblies and rebellious people. In meeting a situation of that kind, necessarily recourse has to be had to force and so far, in the use of that force, a certain latitude has to be given to those persons who are on the spot.

If there are excesses of any kind, it has been stated very clearly in the speech of the Hon'ble the Home Member that it is in the interest of the Provincial Governments and officers of those forces concerned, who are responsible for the discipline of their forces, to take note of those facts and make an inquiry into the matter. So far as the law on that point is concerned, I may say once and for all that no soldier and no police officer is above the provisions of the law if serious charges are made to the effect that the officer concerned made wanton use of force against innocent persons who cannot be supposed to have been involved in any way in the troubles and so on. These are matters for inquiry in the case of individuals.

If there are cases of that kind, the proper authorities to investigate these matters will be the Local Governments. I believe, as my Hon'ble friend, the Law Member, said in the course of his speech, that if these matters were brought to the notice of the Local Governments, I have no reason to suppose that those complaints will not be considered and the matters gone into.

Pundit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra (Presidency Division: Non-Muhammadan Rural): What about the Province of Delhi?

### Specific Cases

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: What has been stated as a general proposition will apply to every province in this country. If it is a question of fact to be gone into in these cases, what will hold good for Madras will hold good for the Punjab and other places.

Now, I come to certain specific cases which have been brought to the notice of



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this House by my Hon'ble friend, Mr. K. C. Neogy. There is one important case to which he made a reference and it sent a thrill of horror through the whole House. Reference was made to the case of my friend Sir Madhava Rao Deshpande of Nagpur. Yesterday, my Hon'ble friend Mr. Neogy stated in the course of his speech, I do not know on whose information....

Mr. K. C. Neogy (Dacca Division: Non-Muhammadan Rural): I will tell the Hon'ble Member the source of my information.

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: I will just tell what I know of the matter. In the first place, I am sorry reference was made to this thing. In the second place, I want to say that what my Hon'ble friend Mr. Neogy said was that Sir Madhava Rao Deshpande was ordered to remove the litter from the street, at the instance of some officer who was there; whether he was a military officer or a police officer he did not specify.

In this connection, I may say one thing, that is, that Sir Madhava Rao Deshpande had been here a few days ago in connection with some work and, as an old friend of mine, he did not like to go away without calling on me. He told me many things, but he never referred to this personal incident to which reference was made by Mr. Neogy now.

After this disclosure was made in this House, I made an attempt yesterday to get into touch with Sir Madhava Rao Deshpande on the telephone to get the facts ascertained. Unfortunately, the telephonic line last night was not clear and whether it would be clear today or not, I do not know. But I am glad to find that efforts were made in other directions also and I am in a position to make a statement which I am sure Mr. Neogy will accept and, it is this.

"Inquiries made by the Chief Secretary of the C.P. Government indicate that the allegations made about Sir Madhava Rao Deshpande were entirely without foundation and Sir Madhava Rao Deshpande himself denied it entirely and vehemently."

That is the information I have got.

#### Mr. Neogy Explains

Mr. K. C. Neogy: On a point of personal explanation, Sir. The Hon'ble the Leader of the House wanted to know the source of my information on this point. I hold in my hand a slip of paper on which I wrote down the thing at the dictation of Dr. Moonje whom I met a few days ago in Delhi. Having heard this story from some other source, I was anxious to have it verified. I asked Dr. Moonje, "Is this true?" I did not unfortunately know the full name of the gentleman, nor had I any occasion to meet him. I said to Dr. Moonje: "Is it a fact that a distinguished gentleman—Sir Madhava Rao Deshpande of Nagpur—had been asked, or rather was made, to remove the litter from the street?" Dr. Moonje said, "Yes, he was actually made to remove the litter."

I put it to him, "Was he only asked or was he actually made to remove it?" He said "Oh! Yes! He was actually made to remove." I said that I thought he was merely asked. He said, "Nothing of the kind, he was made to remove," and then he subsequently said, "He went

and complained to the police authorities, and they said, "Well, unfortunately, we could not recognise him, and who he was." Then I asked Dr. Moonje, "Would you dictate to me the name of this gentleman, so that I could take down the name properly and also the purport of the story?" This is what I took down then, "Sir Madhava Rao Deshpande had to remove the obstruction from the house."

Mr. President (the Hon'ble Sir Abdur Rahim): The Hon'ble Member is making a speech and not giving a personal explanation.

Mr. K. C. Neogy: This conversation took place in the presence of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukerjee, the Finance Minister of Bengal.

Dr. P. N. Banerjee: I also saw Dr. Moonje and he gave me also the same information.

Mr. K. C. Neogy: You may also ask my Hon'ble friend Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh for confirmation of this story. I am glad the existence of this gentleman is not denied. It is a great mercy.

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: I am not at all suggesting that there is no source from which my Hon'ble friend could have got this information. I am not suggesting that my Hon'ble friend made the statement without getting it from any source which he considers reliable. I am afraid Dr. Moonje might have been misinformed about this matter and *bona fide* he might have mentioned the story. Now, Sir, we have got here a categorical statement made by Sir Madhava Rao Deshpande himself to the Chief Secretary who has communicated it to us, that he denied this charge entirely and vehemently.

#### Indian Evacuees

Then there is another point to which I should like to make a reference and it has some relation to the portfolio which is in my charge. My Hon'ble friend referred to certain allegations, recently circulated in a leaflet by Mr. Siddique, about Indian evacuees. I have only to say this, that those Indian evacuees who have come from Burma at present and are in Chittagong, are being given the same treatment which Indian evacuees from Burma in other parts of India are given. What Mr. Siddique wants is something which he has not made clear in that letter, but he also addressed a communication to me and I have sent him a long reply on the point.

I only want to say that the number of those persons is something between 20,000 to 30,000, and twelve officers are working under the Collector of the District of Chittagong to investigate their cases and grant them the allowances they are entitled to under the rules which have been published recently and which are known to the Members of this House. They will be getting the subsistence allowance to which they are entitled.

#### An Assurance

I do not see that there is any reason to make any complaint about that matter. The number of evacuees being very large, it may be that some cases have remained undecided. It will take time. We have given them twelve officers and we have recently informed them that if that number is inadequate to cope with the work, they are entitled to add to their staff, and the Government of India will bear the expenses. I only want to assure this House that the

Government of India is not at all negligent about the interests of those unfortunate Indians who had to leave Burma and come across to Chittagong on account of the conditions that have ensued after the war. That was the second point which had some relation to my Department.

There are many other small points to which he made a reference, but I believe, so far as the question of commandeering boats and the condition of the fishermen in Bengal is concerned, the Government has already issued a communique and there was a good deal of correspondence between the Defence Department and my Hon'ble friend Mr. Neogy, and I do not think it can be legitimately stated that their complaints are not being sympathetically considered by the Government of India.

#### The Main Question

He also referred to the case of boys who fired shots in connection with the affray. Those boys who are alleged to have fired shots are standing their trial on a charge of murder under section 302 I.P.C. before a Magistrate. The case is *sub judice* and therefore I am not prepared to say anything further on this point.

These were some of the points which were specifically referred to by my Hon'ble friend Mr. Neogy and, I believe I have specifically referred to them. I will only say that, if there are any matters which are really causing serious trouble and if those matters are brought to the notice of the Government of India, the Hon'ble Members can rest assured that the Members of the Government of India will do what they can to find out the real facts and will see that justice is done.

Now, I would refer to the main question. At the very beginning I must say that the Members should not go under the impression that the Government of India have no regard for this House. It would be a wrong impression if anybody thought that the Government of India treats this House with contempt. I believe you do not require to be told.....

An Hon'ble Member: Your own colleague has said that?

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: I am sure the interpretation that has been put on certain observations of my Hon'ble friend is far-fetched. He did not mean that the Government of India is treating this House with contempt. He had something else in his mind, but I am not going to enter into that discussion now. He could not mean that I am sure; I have his authority to say that he did not mean that.

Dr. P. N. Banerjee (Calcutta Suburb: Non-Muhammadan Urban): He did not mean what he said?

#### Defence Consultative Committee.

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: The Government of India would really not have thought fit to associate the Members of this House on several committees which deal with matters of great importance. My Honourable friends know that there are Members of this House on the Defence Consultative Committee—a committee before which matters of a confidential nature are discussed. If there had been no respect for the Members of this House, the Government of India would not have given them an opportunity to travel all over India to see all the positions of strategy and the nature of defence.



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The Government of India is conscious that one of the great factors on which it can rely for the successful prosecution of the war is the support of this House, and therefore they make every possible effort to keep them informed and get the support that they need. The very fact that this House was summoned much earlier than usual shows the attitude of Government towards this House.....

Mr. K. C. Neogy (Dacca Division: Non-Muhammadan Rural): What about ordinances which are being enacted by the Government of India?

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: That is a different point. This is a proof of the regard which the Government of India have for the House as a whole.

Mr. K. C. Neogy: What about the other proof which I gave?

## Ordinances

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: Ordinances. Well, my Hon'ble friend will realise that emergencies arise from moment to moment and things have to be done in the form of ordinances. The Government certainly cannot wait for a session to meet and there are matters which if they are taken through the procedure of the legislature would take a good deal of time. Sometimes the action that is demanded requires promptness and immediate attention and no time can be wasted by the Government. These are the considerations that come in the way and ordinances have to be promulgated to meet various emergencies as they arise.

Sardar Sant Singh (West Punjab: Sikh): Why not get the sanction of this House afterwards? You never place those ordinances before us.

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: Now I come to the first point—the step which the Government of India has taken in arresting Mahatma Gandhi and Members of the Congress Working Committee—a drastic step as some of the Members have characterised it—immediately after the Resolution was adopted by the All-India Congress. This question has been debated in such a way that the Government of India can afford to remain silent and not make any reply at all. The arguments on both sides have been elaborated with great ability and force. My Hon'ble friend, Mr. Jamnadas Mehta, has emphatically stated that that was the only proper thing to do. My Hon'ble friend, Nawabzada Liaquat Ali Khan, who spoke for the Muslim League party has given his reasons that the Government could not have done better than this.

Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan (Rohilkund and Kumaon Divisions: Muhammadan Rural): I never said that.

## "Horrible Things"

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: But I am sure my friend Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang has definitely said the same thing—I have taken down his words.

In a matter of this kind I must say what I feel on the point. When I got the information—I am going to say something and I hope my Hon'ble colleagues will not be unnecessarily frightened—when I got this information on the 9th—I did not get it on the 8th, because the decision was taken here in my absence—I first thought that it was a mistake which the Government of India had committed.

I felt like that. In fact I was even prepared to communicate my views to the Government of India, but as I left the place where I got the information and was proceeding on my journey and was gathering information and meeting friends and saw students and excited mobs, as also railway stations burnt and Government and public property damaged and destroyed, I thought that I would have committed the great mistake of my life if I had communicated my views to the Government in response to my first impulse. I could not have anticipated the horrible things at that time. Then I realised that the decision was the result of the collective wisdom of the Council, and they were right.

Mr. Hooseinbhoy A. Lalljee (Bombay Central Division: Muhammadan Rural): Are we to understand that the Hon'ble Member did not know this position till the 8th?

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: I did not know what they were going to do. If the Hon'ble Member was in possession of information as to what was going to take place, then, he as a loyal citizen of the country should have supplied the information to the proper authorities and I am sure they would have made use of it.

Mr. Hooseinbhoy A. Lalljee: I am not to take action. Did the Hon'ble Member take action on the 8th?

## A.-I. C. C. Resolution

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: Any action taken by the Government of India would have had results on the whole of India and, therefore, in view of the consequences that were likely to follow, it is the duty of every one of us to keep the Government of India properly informed.

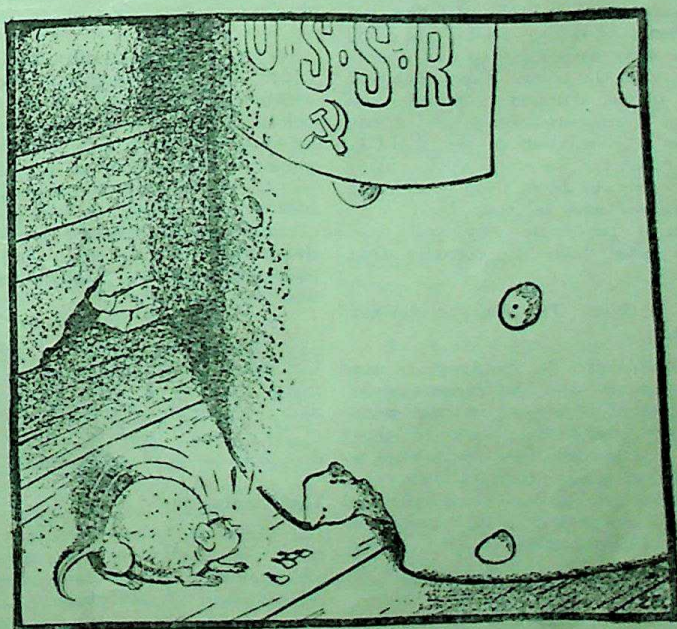
There is one more point. Many friends think that the mistake of the Government was this: that the time asked for by Mahatma Gandhi should have been given

and the country would not have lost anything by it. I could have understood that if the Resolution of the A.I.C.C. really left some scope for negotiation. If my reading of the Resolution is right—and I do not want to take the interpretation of anybody else—my knowledge of English though not very deep is sufficient to enable me to understand the language of the Resolution for myself.....

Dr. P. N. Banerjee: May I ask one question? What was the Government doing between the meeting of the Working Committee and the meeting of the A.I.C.C.—these three weeks?

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: I have made a note of the point of my friend the Leader of the Nationalist Party and I am answering that point. In the first place I want to say that the Resolution leaves no room for negotiation, because it states in categorical terms, "This is our demand: if it is not satisfied, we have our own way of proceeding in the matter." It leaves absolutely no room whatever for any other kind of interpretation. Therefore I do not see what advantage there would have been in having an interview between Mahatma Gandhi and the Viceroy. Probably Mahatma Gandhi—so far as I can venture to make a guess—would have said, "Well, Lord Linlithgow, my good friend, here is the resolution that I have brought on behalf of the Working Committee. This is what it means. I tell you it is in the interests of England. In the name of God I tell you, if you want your future to be safeguarded and your reputation to be maintained, please do this. If you do not do that, be d—d. Let God take care of you."

I claim to know Mahatma Gandhi; and with whatever little knowledge I have of the workings of his mind I say this is the only thing that he would have placed before him. He makes no difference between a Mr. Aney and a Lord Linlithgow.



HIMMEL THERE'S STILL A LOT LEFT



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To him Lord Linlithgow and Mr. Aney or any others are persons on the same level; he makes no distinction between man and man in dealing with them.

#### "A Very Pertinent Point"

Now there is a very pertinent point raised by my friend, Dr. Banerjea, the Leader of the Nationalist Party. As a colleague with whom I have had the privilege of working for a number of years and as a member of the same Party, I have great respect for the view he holds, and I know he weighs his words very carefully and takes a good deal of time before he formulates his own ideas upon any question; therefore his views expressed on the floor of the House are entitled to our serious consideration and I have tried to understand them in the same way.

I find his main point is this: What did the Government of India do in the period between the passing of the Resolution by the Working Committee and the meeting of the A.I.C.C. held in Bombay? Now, I want to know what is the meaning of the Resolution of the Working Committee? What is the constitutional position of that Resolution of the Working Committee? It is only a recommendation made by that body to a bigger body whose sanction is necessary before it can be treated as a Resolution at all. It is one of the stages in the process of arriving at certain conclusions.

If you take up the decision arrived at at a certain stage, it might be that in view of the criticism of that Resolution in the country and in view of the various suggestions that were made, the A.I.C.C. might have taken an entirely different view. In fact I expected that the efforts made by well-meaning friends.....

Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ali: Why then this hasty action on the part of the Government if it was to be placed before that bigger body?

#### Working Committee Resolution

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: I am afraid I have not been able to follow my Hon'ble friend. I believe what I am going to say will serve as a reply to any doubts he may have on the point. I say that that Resolution of the Working Committee was only a kind of recommendation and it had no force as a Resolution of the A.I.C.C. at all. It could not be acted upon. Were we going to prevent them from considering it? Certain sections of that body were thinking in a particular way and were asking the main body to consider that Resolution.....

Mr. N. M. Joshi: Dr. Banerjea did not suggest that.

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: I say there were persons—and Government could only take note of a proposition that went authoritatively under the name of that body—and we expected that there were a large number of public men belonging to various schools of thought and various communities and representing various views who would be making efforts to see that the recommendation of the Congress Working Committee would not be carried out by the A.I.C.C.

Mr. President (The Hon'ble Sir Abdur Rahim): It is ten minutes past two.

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: I shall stop any moment you say, Sir. I will

finish very soon what I want to say. I would like to put a counter question, without meaning any disrespect to anybody and least of all to my Hon'ble friend, Dr. Banerjea. What efforts were made actually by any one of these representatives to prevail upon or to persuade the members of the A.I.C.C., to bring to their notice the dangers inherent in the passing of a resolution like that the consequences of which the country would be called upon to face? What efforts were made to bring these matters to the notice of those gentlemen? And having made those efforts is there any record to show that they failed in their efforts.....

Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta: Yes, of course.

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: Mention them.

Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta: That is all. I say that attempts were made most seriously from different platforms in the presence of hundreds of delegates warning Mahatma Gandhi against this step.

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: I know that; but I believe that Dr. Banerjea had something more than that in his mind. He wanted the representatives to meet

together and come to a decision. I am afraid the Government of India could not have taken notice of a Resolution like that, unless it was a proposition which came authoritatively in the name of the Congress; and when they found that all the efforts which my Hon'ble friend Mr. Jamnadas Mehta said had been made were found to have been futile, the Government of India were probably justified in thinking that their efforts would not have met with any better fate at all; and therefore, I say that viewed from any point of view you cannot accuse the Government of India of having taken a step to precipitate the matter by the arrest of Mahatma Gandhi and the members of the Working Committee. That is all I have to say.

Dr. P. N. Banerjea: What about the immediate future?

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney: The Government have given an opportunity to this House to express its opinions on the present situation, and I will appeal to those gentlemen in whose names the amendments stand that according to approved parliamentary procedure a motion like this is merely debated and no vote of the House is demanded.

## LAW MEMBER ON MOB VIOLENCE

Speaking in the Legislative Assembly on September 24, 1942, the Hon'ble Sir Sultan Ahmed, Law Member, said:

After the speech made by the Hon'ble the Home Member last week, I had hoped that my Hon'ble friends would be persuaded not to proceed with this motion, and before I say anything on the Resolution, I should like to read a passage from his speech on this very point, because it enunciates the policy of the Government and their attitude clearly:

"If...any such act has occurred anywhere, it is a breach of discipline with which the Provincial Governments and the officers in command of their forces are as much concerned as any member of the public....The proper course in such cases will be to bring the allegations, if they are well authenticated, to the notice of the authorities immediately responsible for the discipline of their forces, and it can be assumed that, if satisfied, they will do what is proper."

This is the considered policy of the Government, and I, on behalf of the Government, reaffirm it today. But the motion and the amendments tabled and the speech of Mr. Neogy make it necessary for me to deal with them at some length.

#### The Resolution

The Resolution asks for (1) a committee of the House to inquire into (2) the allegations of excesses committed by (3) the military and (4) the police, in dealing with (5) recent disturbances. Amendments have been tabled, but even if they had not been tabled or moved, I do not see how any inquiry as required by Mr. Neogy can be held without going into the causes and the extent of the disturbances, and without

examining closely the other side of the picture in a manner not prejudicial to the public safety of our country.

Leaving aside the machinery by which this inquiry is to be held, which in the opinion of the Government is immaterial, the main question is whether such an inquiry is possible or even desirable. Whether it is possible or not must depend upon (1) the character of the rebellion and whether the normal condition has been restored; (2) the number of occasions on which fire had to be opened; and (3) the territorial area over which this rebellion operated. Whether it is desirable or not will mainly depend on what effect it is likely to create on those in charge of law and order throughout the country:

As regards the character of the movement, one can safely say that every possible method of sabotage, every known method of attack on public property, every method of defiance of law and order, as was fully stated to the House by the Hon'ble the Home Member, was resorted to. So far as the attack on person was concerned, no officer of the Government who tried to save human life or property was not the object of attack by the mobs. As regards the ferocity of the crimes, nothing was considered too brutal, and atrocities were committed some of which would shock the conscience of the world.

#### Police Firing Explained

The number of occasions on which firing was resorted to by the police was 239. This number does not include the firing in Bihar and Assam as the reports have not been received from these Provinces, and the reports from the United Provinces and Bengal are also very incomplete, and indeed it was bound to be incomplete, as mob rule is still active in some parts of the



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country. Hon'ble Members must have read in the papers that the mobs used muzzle-loading guns in an attack on a police station in Bihar, and other serious incidents are still reported from that Province. The area which was covered by the disturbances may be roughly stated to be the whole of India minus the North-Western Frontier Province and Sind, and practically the Punjab. Hon'ble Members will, I hope, agree with me that on this statement alone an inquiry is ruled out.

I will now deal with the question of excesses. In order to find out the excesses, it will be necessary to find out what was done by the mobs themselves in different parts of the country. To begin with, I feel certain that Hon'ble Members of this House are satisfied that the military or the police were not the aggressors anywhere in India. Once that is conceded, it is necessary to find out in detail, from even in the incomplete information that we have got, the activities of the mobs.

Further, it is also perfectly clear that in every case in which firing had to be resorted to, it was when something extraordinarily serious was being done by the mobs, and it was mainly to prevent any serious sabotage or attack, or to prevent extension of it that firing was opened. The House has heard from the Hon'ble the Home Member the details of the loss to property; to complete the picture, I will give the figures:

250 railway stations, damaged or destroyed.

550 post offices attacked; 50 completely burnt; 200 seriously damaged.

Over 3,500 instances of wire-cutting have been reported.

70 police stations and outposts and 85 other Government buildings attacked.

Police: 31 killed and a very large number injured.

Military casualties: 11 killed; 7 wounded.

In 60 places troops had to open fire.

Mob: total killed 658, total wounded 1,000.

As some killed and wounded are reported to have been carried away by the mobs, we may roughly take this figure to be well below 2,000.

## Murder Of Officials

I should like to supplement this by a reference to some of the gross cases of murder of public officers and men. But before I do so, I must again premise by saying that the information so far received by us is not complete, and I am not in a position to give the large number of injured persons. In Bihar, on August 16, at Minapur, the police station was attacked by a mob of 5,000, headed by Congressmen with Congress flags and armed with deadly weapons, and the Sub-Inspector who resisted the attack was chased, bound to a pillar, and then burnt alive. A number of police men also were injured. The police station was destroyed, and two constables who were left for dead by the mob, were later taken to a hospital.

At Sitamarhi, the Sub-Divisional Officer, a most devoted public servant, a Police

Inspector, one head constable and an orderly were held up in a car and murdered brutally. At Rupauli, a mob of about 10,000 surrounded the police station and hoisted the Congress flag. The Senior Inspector, the Junior Sub-Inspector and three constables retired to their quarters and managed to resist the attack from there, but the Junior Sub-Inspector and two constables with him were overcome and the insurgents poured kerosene oil over them and burnt them alive.

In the Central Provinces, at Ashti, a Sub-Inspector of Police and four constables were murdered, the Sub-Inspector having been beaten to death with stones and lathis and three of the constables having been soaked in kerosene and burnt alive on the spot, and the fourth who had been rescued by his friends, was later on caught and killed. At Chimur, a Circle Inspector and a constable were burnt, and two Magistrates were beaten severely and the Rest House in which they were still alive was set on fire.

## In U. P., Bihar And C. P.

In the United Provinces, in Bihar, and C.P., and also in other parts of the country, there were murders of Magistrates and police officers and men, and I now propose to refer to three other cases. Unfortunately, these cases come from Bihar. At Narayanpur, a plane crashed west of Narayanpur on August 18. The pilot was killed in the crash, and the remainder of the crew were killed by the mob. At Marhowra, one British Officer and four British Other Ranks, part of a detachment on protective duty, were ambushed as they alighted from a car in a field, and speared or beaten to death. The last case is the murder of two Air Force Officers. I should like to give a little detail of this crime as the brutality and the ferocity with which they were murdered display the colossal callousness of the mob. These two young officers were travelling as ordinary passengers in a train and were not on duty in connection with the disturbances. Their train was attacked by an angry mob, and stones were hurled at the windows of the carriage in which the two officers were travelling. Attempts were made to pacify the mob, but in vain. Finally the officers left their carriage and stepped out on to the platform. One of them was dressed only in a pair of shorts and the upper part of his body was bare. They were both set upon immediately and hacked to death in a most brutal way. Their bodies were then paraded through the town on an *ekka* and were finally thrown into a river. The train was afterwards burnt. I do not know in what language one can describe this brutality.

I have given these details only for the purpose of showing the enormity of the crimes, and the large area that it covered, and the number of occasions when it became necessary to open fire. It is obvious from this that those who were out to prevent damage to life and property by the mobs had to be mainly on the defensive and were suffering from tremendous handicap of the superiority of number against them. It is in this perspective that the question of inquiry into excesses can be considered. Knowing the facts as we do, is there any *prima facie* case for inquiry? I respectfully submit, none whatsoever.

## Question Of Inquiry

I will now take up the further question of the propriety of inquiry against the

troops and the police separately. As regards the allegation of excesses by the troops, it must be pointed out that the troops are always averse to be engaged in the suppression of riots. It is not their legitimate function and they only come in because they are called upon to operate in aid of the civil power. The army is a highly disciplined organisation which can be trusted to do the best possible in an emergency, and their confidence should never be undermined. If their conduct is called in question on any and every occasion when they have to carry out a duty which they hate, and which is perhaps the most unpleasant and difficult duty any citizen can have thrust upon him, it will be perfectly clear that their morale will be sapped, and when called upon to act, there will be a great and natural disinclination to do so.

And there is a very strong feeling in the army that they shall not undertake such duties with the ever present fear before them that they will have to defend themselves and answer questions inspired by hostility, or even worse, by the desire to find a scapegoat. They are bound by very strict rules and they are taught that they will be trusted in an emergency to do the best they can. In a sudden emergency, nobody can carry out every petty rule in every detail, and a soldier must be trusted to do his duty as best as he can. In the conditions already described, these arguments apply with almost equal force to an inquiry into the conduct of the police. If an officer is always to have to justify his action before a committee of inquiry, there is bound to be a tendency to take the line of least resistance, and not to take drastic but effective measures.

## A Provincial Subject

From the reports which have been received, the Government are fully satisfied that the troops and the police have done their duty remarkably well under most trying and perilous conditions. Government do not suggest that there may not have been cases when, in a serious disturbance as this, there may not have been some excessive force or innocent persons have not suffered. If there have been such cases which are authenticated, the attention of the Army Department and the Provincial Governments will be drawn to them so that they may try to see that those who have been guilty of such excesses do not escape punishment. The military authorities are exceedingly jealous of their reputation and the reputation of their soldiers, and I have no doubt that once a case of unjustifiable shooting is brought to their notice, they are sure to take action themselves.

As regards the police, there may be a question whether the Governor-General in Council would have any power to appoint a committee of members of the Central Legislature to inquire into the operation of the police forces which are entirely a Provincial subject. Here, again, we feel sure that gross and callous cases of police excesses, if any, will most certainly be examined by the Provincial Governors.

## The Main Objection

The main objection to the proposal, as I have submitted before, is the disastrous effect it would have on the morale of the services concerned if an inquiry such as has been suggested was ordered, and it is interesting to note that the Sind Government which had agreed to hold an official inquiry



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into certain allegations against the police in Karachi, which incidentally turned out to be completely unfounded, had immediately an adverse effect on the morale of the police forces in that area. The cases that have been mentioned in this House will no doubt be noted, and the attention of the proper authorities drawn to them, but I respectfully submit that simply because some people come and start stories before some of us, it does not necessarily follow that they are true. Most of them turn out to be without foundation, and may be on a par with Sir Madhava Deshpande's story. Lots of stories had been brought to me from Patna, which, on inquiry from persons concerned, have been found to be absolutely untrue; one of these concerned an Hon'ble Member of this House.

Any attempt to bring discredit on the forces who have so courageously and loyally performed their onerous duties in the face of tremendous odds, would be most unfortunate. We are in the midst of a life and death struggle; the enemy is knocking at our doors, and surely on such an occasion it is better to look forward rather than to look backward, and to see whether the orgy of destruction cannot be put behind us and all endeavours concentrated to bring peace and tranquillity in the country, and defeat our external enemies.

May I, in conclusion, respectfully suggest that this chapter should now be closed, and we must now go ahead. Enough damage has been done by this senseless anarchy. Let us not let down those who have stood by us and who deserve our gratitude, because if we do, that will not only be the end of any discipline, but we must also be prepared for disasters of the worst kind in the country.

## AMERICAN PRESS CORRESPONDENT ON INDIAN CENSORSHIP

The Home Secretary, in his speech, referred to the views of the correspondent of International News Service, U.S.A. Here is the full text of the answers given by Mr. William Chaplin of International News Service, U.S.A., to questions on censorship in India in the series "Voice of America" broadcast from the Delhi station of All India Radio on September 23, 1942:

**Barlow:** Let's get right down to cases on this censorship business. Are American newspapers, on which Americans must depend for their information on world events, getting a true picture of happenings in India? How about the government censorship here?

**Chaplin:** That's a tough question. Not because there's anything unusual about the censorship in India, but because few reporters have ever been known to have a good word to say for any censor. And yet in all fairness your question forces me to admit that our particular brigands of the blue pencil here are not such a wicked lot as they are sometimes painted. For instance, take the recent A.I.C.C. meeting in Bombay and the subsequent days of rioting. The censorship during these trying days was as intelligent and as liberal as I have ever seen it in any country.

**Barlow:** Then you think America did get a full and accurate story of those

disturbances, and you give the censors full marks?

**Chaplin:** I know that America got a complete and accurate picture of happenings during the opening days of the disturbances, but don't ask me to give these or any other censors full marks. That's like asking a ball player to kiss the umpire. There have been certain censorship restrictions since those opening days which some of the American correspondents protested against. Looking back on them now I can say that in most instances they seem to have been rather reasonable, and they were lifted as soon as the military situation warranted. But don't tell the censors I said anything nice about them. The shock of having a kind word come from a correspondent might be too much for them, and we do need censors; they're one of our bulwarks against carelessness which might be tragic.



## BLOOD TRANSFUSION AT IRWIN HOSPITAL An Allegation Denied

In the Indian Legislative Assembly on September 21, Sir F. E. James asked: Will the Hon'ble Member for Education, Health and Lands be pleased to state whether there is any foundation for the allegation made in the Legislative Assembly by an Hon'ble Member that the authorities of the Irwin Hospital refused to give a blood transfusion to a person suffering from wounds sustained in the recent rioting in Delhi on the ground that he was a rebel?

The Hon'ble Mr. J. D. Tyson, Secretary, Department of Education, Health and Lands, stated:

Government have been entirely unable to trace any such incident. None of the doctors concerned with the transfusion service at the Irwin Hospital is able to recall any occurrence which could possibly have formed the basis of this extraordinary story. During the period of the disorders no facilities for blood transfusion were refused. On the contrary blood transfusions were given by the Superintendent of the Hospital to members of the public said to have been injured in the rioting.

### "No Specific Allegation"

In reply to a supplementary question Mr. Tyson stated that he was not prepared to order a judicial inquiry. A very general allegation had been made on the floor of the House. The Department had done its best to trace the origin of the allegation and had been unable to find any basis for it. There was no specific allegation to form the basis for a judicial inquiry.

In reply to a further question Mr. Tyson stated that there were no instructions which could prevent the utilisation of blood collected in the Irwin Hospital for persons who had suffered injuries in civil disorders. On the contrary the Superintendent's policy was to collect blood for the general purposes of the Hospital as he regarded the maintenance of facilities for blood transfusion as a proper function of any up-to-date hospital. There was no reservation of the blood facilities for A.R.P. casualties or any other kind of casualties.

## IRON AND STEEL CONTROL ORDER RELAXED

The Government of India, on October 16, 1942, cancelled by notification in a *Gazette Extraordinary* the Iron and Steel (Emergency Distribution) Order issued on September 5, 1942, which required validation *de novo* of current licences, as arrangements have now been made to meet the emergency with which the Order was intended to deal.

## PRESS RESTRICTIONS

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 379]

maintain that the restrictions that have been imposed are no more than have been necessary to meet an entirely exceptional situation, and as soon as that exceptional situation ceases to exist, no one would be better pleased than ourselves to see these special restrictions disappear also.

I am fully prepared, Sir, to send the whole of this debate to Provincial Governments and ask them to consider what reduction of restrictions would now be possible, but I am afraid I cannot do more than that. We are prepared to co-operate with any section of the Press which is prepared to co-operate with us, but equally we are determined to resist any section of the Press that attempts to stimulate or encourage a revolutionary movement which, I believe, this House as a whole deprecates and condemns.

And, Sir, if I may be allowed to end by expressing a purely personal opinion, I do think that there is one word which has done more harm to India and India's cause than anything else. It is not an English word. It does not occur, so far as I know, in any English Dictionary. It is the word "non-co-operation." If that ugly word and all that it stands for could be banned, censored, suppressed and abolished by every class and community in this country, including my own, I believe, Sir, what is called the Indian problem would soon cease to exist.

## PARTY TO BEVIN BOYS

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 375]

studying the German way of death, physical death, the death of all free thought and the death of everything that makes life worth living; but we at least have the privilege of carrying on some of our work with friends of this country, from these countries and other countries who have come here in the Allied armies, as refugees and on such special missions as yours.

### At Waxworks Exhibition

"But this job of ours is only half the battle, that is the interpretation of Great Britain abroad. The other half is the interpretation of other countries to Great Britain, and here you are in a position to help who have come here to gain experience which will be helpful to you in the job you are going to do in your own country for the common fight against aggression. That is only possible through knowledge, and I believe that we must make a tremendous effort to achieve that mutual understanding between the nations which is the only firm foundation for a basis of lasting peace and a better world after the war."

After the lunch, the party were taken in taxis to Madame Tussaud's Waxworks Exhibition where they spent over an hour before they returned to Letchworth.



## CENTRAL LEGISLATURE

## SIR M. USMAN EXPLAINS MEASURES TAKEN TO CONTROL DISTURBANCES

Opening the discussion on the situation in India, in the Council of State on September 22, the Hon'ble Sir Mohammad Usman, Leader of the House, said :

Sir, I beg to move that the situation in India be taken into consideration.

I am moving this Resolution for the purpose of giving the Hon'ble Members of this House an opportunity of discussing the present situation in this country.

Soon after the arrest of the Congress leaders on August 9, there were concerted acts of violence and sabotage not only in Bombay but in Madras, the Central Provinces, Bengal, the United Provinces and Bihar. They were specially directed against the railways, telegraphs, telephones, post offices, police stations and other Government buildings. The Provinces of the Punjab, Sind and the North-West Frontier were remarkably free from these attacks.

## Extent Of Damage

The extent of the damage done was very great. About 258 railway stations were destroyed, of which about 180 were in Bihar and the east of the United Provinces. Forty trains were derailed, as a result of which casualties to railway staff were 1 killed and 21 injured and casualties to other personnel, in accidents arising from the disturbances, were 3 killed and 30 injured among Government servants or troops and 2 killed and 23 injured among passengers. Great damage was done to the railway engines, the permanent way and the rolling stock. About 550 post offices have been attacked, of which 50 were completely burnt down and 200 seriously damaged. There have been till now about 3,500 instances of wire-cutting. About Rs. 1 lakh worth of cash and stamps were stolen from the post offices, and numerous letter boxes were removed and destroyed. Further, about 70 police stations and outposts and 140 other Government buildings were attacked, the majority of which were burnt or demolished. Attacks were also made on many municipal buildings and on private property. The total damage done to the railways, posts and telegraphs alone, taking into account the loss of earnings, would be much over a crore of rupees. The total damage done in the Nagpur district of the Central Provinces is estimated at Rs. 1,25,000 while in another case in the Central Provinces Rs. 3,50,000 were looted from a treasury (Rupees one lakh has since been recovered).

In the United Provinces, a private doctor's dispensary was sacked with a loss of Rs. 10,000.

In Delhi, the total damage to buildings is estimated at Rs. 8,86,601.

The situation has much improved though sporadic acts of sabotage and mob violence are still being continued.

To control and suppress these disturbances and to maintain law and order in the country, the following measures were taken :-

1. The Congress Committees were declared to be unlawful associa-

tions and important individuals who were likely to organise and lead mass movements and create disturbances with the object of paralysing the administration were detained.

2. As this movement was intended to interfere with the prosecution of the war and to paralyse the war effort, action was taken under the Defence of India Rules.
3. The Penalties Enhancement Ordinance, the Special Criminal Courts Ordinance and the Collective Fines Ordinance were put into operation.
4. Certain restrictions on the publication of news were imposed in the best interests of the country.
5. In the disturbed areas the fullest use was made of the police who had on several occasions to face very difficult situations and were forced to open fire on riotous mobs. As a result of this, 390 people were killed and about 1,060 wounded. A large number of policemen were injured and 32 were killed.
6. British and Indian troops were used in aid of the civil power in about 60 places. They were forced on many occasions to open fire, the casualties being 331 killed and 159 wounded, the military casualties being 11 killed and 7 wounded.
7. The Air Force was employed for reconnaissance and patrol.

## Excellent Work By Police And Military

The police and the military have been called upon to meet a very grave situation in various places. I should like to take this opportunity of expressing the appreciation of the Government of the excellent work done by them. It is a matter for congratulation that all ranks of Government servants have done their duty most faithfully and loyally—on many occasions under very difficult circumstances.

As in all engineered movements, the general public had nothing to do with these disturbances. In several cases labour has been forced to take part in them. It is a matter for satisfaction that the Muslim community and the Scheduled Castes have as a whole stood entirely aloof.

The cutting of telephone and telegraph wires, removal of rails, demolition of bridges, impeding of the war effort and running of a parallel Government were all on the Congress programme of open rebellion, as may be seen from the instructions issued by the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee which have been published by the Government of Madras.

Mr. Sankar Rao Deo, a member of the Congress Working Committee, who has been arrested and is now detained, speaking at Marol and Ghatkopar in the Bombay



HON'BLE SIR MOHAMMAD USMAN,  
MEMBER FOR POSTS AND AIR

Suburban District on July 26 and 29, said that he thought the entry of Japan into the war should be an encouragement to Indians, who should and did derive pleasure from the successes of the Germans. He went on to suggest that the mass civil disobedience movement would take the form of a general strike in all factories, mills and transport undertakings which would cripple the war machinery.

## Common Guiding Policy

The fact that the method adopted for interfering with communications was of the same pattern in all parts of the country and the selection of military areas and objectives for special attack seem to indicate a common guiding policy with the definite object of inviting Japan to attack India. No party which sincerely desires to rally the country whole-heartedly in resistance to the enemy could possibly, in any circumstances, have let the country in for what has happened since August 9.

For all these disorders Congress cannot be absolved from responsibility as Mr. Gandhi and the other Congress leaders had been preaching for some time an open rebellion against the Government of the country, apart from the terms of the resolution passed by the All-India Congress Committee. Some say that Government have been hasty in taking action. If we had only delayed taking action, this dangerous movement to rebel against Government and to impede the war efforts would have taken such a tremendous shape as to cause irreparable damage to this country. The Congress alone is responsible for the present situation and for the destruction of life and property during the last six weeks. By encouraging and promoting these acts of violence and sabotage, the Congress has done the greatest disservice to this country at a time when Japan is at the very doors of India. The measures taken by the Government are, therefore, thoroughly justified.



## CENTRAL LEGISLATURE

SIR JWALA PRASAD SRIVASTAVA  
APPEALS FOR INDIAN UNITY

The Hon'ble Sir J. P. Srivastava (Member for Civil Defence) speaking in the Council of State on September 24, 1942, during the debate on the political situation in India, said:—

Mr. President, Sir, I had very little intention of participating in this debate as there are so many other Government spokesmen much more capable than myself to put the Government case. Sir, I am one of the youngest Members of the Government. I am, in fact, a baby (*laughter*). But, Sir, I might perhaps place the point of view of the Indian members before the House.

Pundit H. N. Kunzru : All the Indian members ?

The Hon'ble Sir J. P. Srivastava : I could not swear to it, but I should say of at least many of the Indian members. Sir, I do not think we are as bad as we have been painted to be by some of our friends. I do not say this with pride, but I am making a bare statement of facts. Sir, we have endeavoured from the very beginning to do what little we can to resolve the deadlock. I hate the word 'deadlock' but still it has got to be used sometimes. Sir, we have been working night and day to restore peace and harmony, and if we have not achieved more success, surely the fault is not ours.

## Survey Of Events

Sir, let me give to the House a rapid survey of the events which have led up to the present situation. It will be remembered, Sir, that the Viceroy invited Mahatma Gandhi and Mr. Jinnah soon after the outbreak of hostilities. He had a talk with them, and I believe the object was to reach an arrangement which will hold for the duration of the war. At that time unfortunately the Congress Ministries had resigned. I thought, and still think, Sir, that that was a great mistake. The Congress were in power in the provinces and they could have done a lot if they had remained in power. But they chose the other course and they resigned, so that in the provinces where the people come in contact with the Government, there was autocratic rule, Governor's Raj. Sir, that was a catastrophe of the first magnitude to my mind; and I think it is largely responsible for the embitterment of the feelings as we find them today. If the Congress had retained their positions in the provinces, I am sure, ways and means would have been found, by which everybody would have shared in the administration of the country both at the Centre and in the provinces.

I might also recall, Sir, that before that, the proposal to introduce Federation in the Centre was vehemently opposed by many of the leading parties. I feel, Sir, looking back, that if Federation had come in at that time, we would have been on a much stronger wicket today. I think it was a great mistake that we threw away what was a golden opportunity to my mind. If Federation had been accepted, the bogey of Pakistan would not have been



HON'BLE SIR JWALA PRASAD SRIVASTAVA,  
MEMBER FOR CIVIL DEFENCE

raised, and I cannot help feeling that those who are responsible for not accepting Federation at that time are greatly to blame.

I just mentioned that soon after the outbreak of hostilities the Viceroy summoned Mahatma Gandhi and Mr. Jinnah. That talk, I believe, led to nothing. I believe the Mahatma demanded sole right at that talk of nominating the personnel of a National Government which was going to be set up. I speak subject to correction. But, as far as my memory goes, I think he demanded the sole right and on that rock the ship was wrecked. The Viceroy could not agree to it. Thereafter, the Viceroy pursued his efforts and he summoned no less than 52 of the leading men of the country and had talks with the object of evolving a scheme under which Indians could work the Government of the country. Sir, those talks also resulted in nothing. Then the Viceroy made another attempt and that was in August, 1940. He made an offer to the organised parties of the country. We all know, Sir, that that offer too was rejected.

The Hon. Mr. Hossain Imam : Why ?

The Hon. Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava : I am not going into the "why." I am only stating the fact that that offer too was rejected. Last of all there came the mission of Sir Stafford Cripps with which we are very familiar. I believe the main object of that mission was to placate the Congress and the Muslim League, and whatever may be said now, I think that at that time both these parties thought that they were very near the goal. Unfortunately, at the last minute, the Congress rejected the offer and Sir Stafford Cripps had to go back to England. That, I believe, Sir, is the culminating point of the present tension.

The information which I received here when I joined my present appointment was that preparations were being made by the Congress to embark on a mass movement of great magnitude. I do not know whether any of the Hon. Members present here are cognisant of that fact. But I believe that these preparations had been in train for several months and it was openly hinted that the machinery of Government should be paralysed. I would like the House to look at the position of Government from this background. We were faced with a life and death struggle; the enemy was standing at our doors and we were presented with the prospect of a mass movement of that character. As I have said, I only joined the Government a few days before the crisis took place, but I wish to assure the House that so far as the Government were concerned, they had a lot of information which gave them no alternative, no choice at all, if they were to save the country from a catastrophe of the first magnitude. It may be that the steps they took did not succeed as well as they thought they would. Still, what was the alternative before the Government when they had that kind of information ?

Sir, it cannot be said that the Government are composed entirely of men who have no love for the country. I do not claim myself as a great patriot although I have my own opinions of love for my country. But there are people in the Executive Council who yield to none in their love for the country and if they all deliberately took a decision like that, the circumstances must have been grave. That is the only thing that I can say on that point.

## "Entirely Preventive"

And, Sir, supposing the whole blame rests with the British Government, why did they take such a step? What was the reason? We know very well that they have been endeavouring very hard to win over the Congress. Why should they embark on a step which would cause all this trouble in the country unless they were driven to it? They were on the edge of a precipice and they had to do it. The steps that we took were never intended to be punitive. They were entirely preventive, and although I am not aware of the excesses that have been talked about, I hope my Hon. friend, the Leader of the House, will answer these charges.

I wish to assure the House that we, Indian Members of the Executive Council—in fact the entire Executive Council—were fully agreed that no vindictive steps should be taken, that the minimum force only should be used and that distinguished leaders should be housed in conditions of comfort and even luxury. They are merely detained so that they might not actively support the Congress programme. We had thought that their detention would not be long. We had thought that very soon probably the country would learn better and that this danger would pass off. But things have turned out to be different and I hope the House realises that we are not doing anything with a view to penalising Leaders whom we all respect. I have never been a Congressman myself. In fact I have been a strong opponent of the Congress; but I have great respect personally for Mahatma Gandhi and many other leaders. They are India's greatest sons.



# CENTRAL LEGISLATURE

Now, Sir, I turn to some of the points raised by my friends, the Honourable Mr. Sapru and Mr. Kunzru. The position of an Executive Councillor under the Act of 1919 is a little bit peculiar. The House is doubtless aware that so far as the Centre is concerned most of the provisions of the Act of 1919 still apply. Sir, if we had had Federation, then these transitory provisions would have gone. But, Sir, rules are one thing, the Act is one thing, and yet practice and convention can be different. I wish to assure the House that we, Executive Councillors, today are being treated in the most liberal manner and we have never had an instance—if I am not giving away a secret—in which the Governor-General has seen it fit to exercise his veto. I make that statement categorically. Of course I have been a member for only six or seven weeks, but during this brief time I have never had an instance of interference and what is more we have been allowed to function as a composite Government. Sir, what the law cannot do can be done by practice, and convention.

## Constitution-making

As regards the controversy about the Executive Councillors not having done anything to resolve the deadlock or to initiate proposals, I think there is a little misunderstanding. According to the letter of the law no Executive Councillor or the Executive Council as such is allowed to initiate measures for constitutional changes. The reason is very simple. My friends who are eminent lawyers will know this better than I do. My Hon'ble friend over there says 'No.' Dr. Kunzru, too, has been an eminent lawyer at one time. Now, we cannot in the very nature of things frame a constitution affecting ourselves. We are not allowed technically to initiate constitutional measures and I make bold to say that never so far has the Executive Council initiated any such measures. Before us there have been distinguished Indian Members of the Executive Council and excepting in one instance—and that related to the Muddiman proposals; because that was a more or less local matter, they appointed a committee to examine the working of the Montagu Reforms—never have any constitutional proposals been initiated by the Executive Council.

Whether this is the right position or not I do not know, but the Act makes it clear. When I have said that I do not mean that the Executive Councillors cannot use their influence and adopt other methods for the resolution of the deadlock.

Sir, my friends over there know that we cannot give out secrets of the Executive Council. Our mouth is closed and I do not wish to say definitely what we have been doing or not doing. But, Sir, I wish to assure the House that we are not oblivious of our responsibility in the matter. We are very conscious that something must be done and in doing anything in that connection it is the members of this House who can be of the greatest help.

## Communal Deadlock

Sir, when we want to put forward any proposal for the establishment of a National Government we are at once faced with this communal deadlock. In fact the speeches which have been made here today give us the completest justification for not doing anything. These speeches had better not been made on the floor of this House. I think these speeches ought to have been

made outside the House. It would have greatly strengthened our hands if Messrs. Kunzru and Hossain Imam had come to me or to my friend here with an agreed formula. That is what we are up against all the time. In fact, what is a National Government? A National Government is one in which all parties are united which leaves no room for controversy or opposition, and unless we have these fundamental pre-requisites there can be no National Government. What is the use of a National Government from which the Congress or the Muslim League is standing out? We have these real difficulties and I appeal to the House to assist us in solving them.

I wish to assure the House that we are most anxious that a way should be found out of the present impasse. We have been exerting all the little influence which we possess in order that a solution may be found, but so far we are no nearer it.

Sir, my friend Mr. Hossain Imam has talked of the eternal triangle. That is a very bad thing. I wish he would get rid of the triangle; I feel, as soon as we get rid of it, we shall have our freedom. If only Mr. Hossain Imam and Mr. Kunzru

could talk out their differences and come to us as one man, not as a Muslim Leaguer and a Liberal Leader but as one man, I think no power on earth could refuse to give us what is our birth-right.

It is only these differences that are stopping us. I myself have been and probably am still a member of the Hindu Mahasabha, but all my advice to that body, to whom I owe my loyalty, has been that they should try and reach an agreement with the Muslim League. We have been endeavouring to do it. So far we have not seen daylight and I do not know how long it will be before the two parties will come to an agreement. I wish to assure the House once again that the Indian Members of the Executive Council are at their command, beck and call. We regard you as our masters. I have been a Minister; so I know the position of a Legislative Council. We regard you as our masters and it is for you to command us, to come to us with a definite thing. Give us a definite formula; do not talk in the air and do not make us more confused. We shall carry out your wishes provided you would come and give us a definite lead. (Applause).

## SIR MOHAMMAD USMAN ON CONGRESS AIM

Winding up the debate on the present situation in India in the Council of State on September 24, Sir Mohammad Usman, the Leader of the House, said that there were no strong reasons to assume that excessive force was used by the police and the military. Therefore there would be no enquiry into their conduct. The Hon'ble Mr. Sapru said that in quelling the disturbances, Nazi methods were adopted.

Sir Mohammad Usman continued: "I would like to assure the House that Nazi methods were never adopted by the British Government in the administration of this country at any time. If they had been Nazi-minded they would not have brought Parliamentary institutions like the Legislative Assembly and the Council of State into existence and have allowed a discussion on the present situation. If today, barring the Congress, the whole country stands behind the British Government in the prosecution of the war, it is due to the sense of British justice and fair play which they have introduced into the administration of this country. The Hon'ble Mr. Sapru condemned the speech of Mr. Churchill, pleaded for the abolition of the India Office and condemned the attitude of Sir Stafford Cripps.

"We all know that when Sir Stafford Cripps, well-known for his sympathy towards the political aspirations of India and a great friend of the Congress, came to India and carried on his talks with all the important political parties, he discovered that the real object of the Congress was to get unlimited power for itself. As a true Britisher he refused to allow this as it would be very unjust to other parties. Mr. Amery has been trying to protect in any political settlement the interests of the Muslim community, the Depressed Classes and the Princes and other interests. For this offence his office should be abolished, according to the Hon'ble Mr. Sapru!

Instead of being grateful to the Prime Minister for making the Cripps proposals as the settled policy of the British Crown and Parliament he is condemned because he spoke the bitter truth that the Congress does not represent the whole Indian nation. When the Muslims have all practically gone out of the Congress and have come under the leadership of Mr. Jinnah, the Congress has lost its national characteristic. If further evidence of this is needed, you will find that the Muslims throughout India obeyed the mandate of Mr. Jinnah and completely abstained from joining the present Civil Disobedience movement."

Quoting relevant extracts from the speeches of the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for India on the future of India, Sir Mohammad Usman said, "The solution of the political problem lay in our hands. If we did not agree among ourselves and did not show any spirit of give and take, why blame the British Government?"

## LAW MEMBER'S STATEMENT

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 381]

that we Indians form a part of it—has decided, and there is no difference about it, that these enemies are outlaws, and civilisation will not be satisfied unless these outlaws are brought to book. Allied Nations have pledged themselves to 'do or die' in this great struggle, and whichever Government comes into power in India, it has to pledge itself to that faith. We are as anxious as anyone in this House to have the freedom of the country, and we are here only to advance that interest. We are, however, clear in our own minds that the freedom secured from the British without the agreement of the major parties, even if it were possible, would lead us to anarchy and civil war and thus to abject slavery under the Japanese, and we will sooner prefer annihilation to the position thus created.



# WAR FUNDS

## THE VICEROY'S WAR PURPOSES FUND

**C**ontributions to His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund during the fortnight ended September 15, 1942, amounted to Rs. 3,26,000 and payments in India and abroad to Rs. 11,56,210. No sterling payments were made overseas during the fortnight. Excepting a small sum of Rs. 2,210 paid overseas for provision of comforts for nurses in Iraq, the rest of the payments were made entirely in India.

Rs. 1,01,000 were paid in India for Defence Services Estimates for Indian Air Force and Rs. 28,000 for Defence Services Estimates.

The Central Joint War Committee of the Indian Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Association received Rs. 21,000 and the Royal Indian Navy Rs. 2,40,900.

The Indian Red Cross Society received Rs. 2,200 for the provision of surgical and medical supplies for Russia. The Indian Forces Medical After-care Fund received a contribution of Rs. 10,300 and the Indian Soldiers' Board Rs. 50,000.

Rs. 4,00,000 were contributed to the Indian Overseas Evacuation Relief Fund.

The Chairman, Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta, received Rs. 3,00,000 for Indian Seamen's Home, Calcutta.

Total receipts in the War Purposes Fund up to September 15, 1942, amounted to Rs. 7,33,99,000, including interest realised on investments of cash balances.

Contributions to the St. Dunstan's Section amounted to Rs. 7,02,000.

Total payments in India and overseas came to Rs. 6,43,85,003.

### Earlier Payments

During the fortnight ended August 15, 1942, a sum of Rs. 20,000 was paid in India to the President, National Committee, Y.W.C.A., Calcutta. Other important payments in India were: Rs. 22,000 to the Defence Services Estimates, Rs. 5,000 to Amenities for Troops Fund, Rs. 18,000 to the Central Joint War Committee of the Indian Red Cross and St. John Ambulance

Association, Rs. 10,200 to the Royal Indian Navy and Rs. 14,000 to Motor Ambulances purchased in India.

During the same period a sum of £5,000 was paid overseas for the purchase of Aircraft for R.A.F.



### A CALCUTTA FIRM'S GIFT

Messrs. Smith Stanistreet and Co., Ltd., Calcutta, have presented three million tablets of Sodium Chloride as a gift to the Government of India. The offer has been gratefully accepted, and two million tablets have been earmarked for the use of the Army and the balance for the Royal Air Force.



### "BULLETS FOR HITLER"

A student from New Delhi has sent annas four to the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund out of his pocket money "for the purchase of bullets for Adolf Hitler and his colleagues."

## WAR LOAN INVESTMENTS

Here is a statement showing the amounts subscribed by each of the 11 Provinces, and by the Indian States and Centrally-Administered areas, to the Indian Defence Loans, in July, 1942, together with progressive totals for each Province, etc. :-

STATISTICS OF DEFENCE LOANS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 1942 (IN THOUSANDS OF RUPEES)

Area	3% Defence Loans		Interest Free Bonds		Defence Savings Certificates				Defence Savings Bank		Grand Total
	Subscription for July 1942	Progressive total to end of the month	Subscription for July 1942	Progressive total to end of the month	Sales during July 1942 (Preliminary)	Encashments during the month	Net sales during the month	Progressive (net) total to end of the month	Deposits during July 1942 (Preliminary)	Progressive total to end of the month	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
Bengal ..	23.04	40,97.18	1	38.83	1.52	1.20	32	78.55	23	1.99	42,16.55
Bombay ..	1,06.78	38,62.44	20.22	1,43.06	2.26	73	1.53	82.23	38	2.78	40,90.51
Punjab ..	25.22	5,36.06	57	17.15	3.08	83	2.25	59.38	99	3.82	6,16.41
U. P. ..	5.92	4,44.88	7	10.97	1.98	1.11	87	67.58	18	2.99	5,26.42
Madras ..	5.07	4,27.05	†	5.53	1.64	51	1.13	32.39	16	96	4,65.93
Sind ..	6.20	1,36.76	†	3.34	94	10	84	15.59	7	67	1,56.36
Bihar ..	8.06	98.53	3	5.59	78	45	33	34.38	3	54	1,39.04
Delhi ..	1.27	73.27	†	2.05	19	15	4	7.49	6	34	83.15
C. P. and Berar ..	1.50	31.50	1	1.39	46	40	6	20.56	11	50	53.95
N.-W. F. P. ..	39	24.13	†	1.30	12	4	8	6.42	4	25	32.10
Orissa ..	18	27.53	†	6	7	1	6	3.59	†	5	31.23
Baluchistan ..	73	17.77	†	57	17	22	-5	3.49	1	28	22.11
Assam ..	4	11.07	..	20	14	8	6	7.54	2	28	19.10
Ajmer-Merwara ..	61	9.55	†	18	21	†	20	1.77	1	4	11.55
Coorg ..	..	2	..	..	1	†	1	16	†	†	18
Indian States and other Central Treasuries ..	26.76	2,84.75	1	67.76	55	54	1	35.73	37	1.49	3,89.73
Total ..	2,11.77	1,00,82.49*	20.93	2,97.98*	14.11	6.37	7.74	4,56.86*	2.65	16.99*	1,08,54.32*

† Subscription less than Rs. 500.

\* Includes subsequent adjustments of previous preliminary figures.



## PERSONALITIES

### Who's Who In National Defence Council—



RAJAH BAHADUR OF KHALLIKOTE

#### THE RAJAH BAHADUR OF KHALLIKOTE

**R**ajah Bahadur Sri Ramachandra Mardaraj Deo of Khallikote, Member of the National Defence Council, and a firm believer in Indo-British connection, is a prominent figure in the public life of Orissa. He is taking a leading part in the promotion of war effort in his province and is the Vice-President of the Orissa Provincial War Committee.

A descendant of the Rana family of the Solar Dynasty, the Rajah Bahadur (born in January, 1900) is the son of the late Rajah Hari Hara Mardaraj Deo who was well-known for his philanthropy. He endowed the College at Berhampur with a lakh of rupees, presented a town hall to the Berhampur Municipality and was founder and patron of the Khallikote College. In recognition of his public services, the Government conferred on him the title of Rajah. The move for a separate province for the Oriyas originated with the late Rajah Hari Hara Mardaraj Deo.

Rajah Bahadur Sri Ramachandra Mardaraj Deo was educated at the Newington Institution and the Madras Christian College, and entered public life at an early age. During the 1919 famine, while at college, he rendered help to alleviate distress and suffering among the people.

#### Served In I.T.F.

The Rajah Bahadur was Member of the old Madras Legislative Council and President of the Ganjam District Board and the Ganjam Landholders' Association for many years. He tendered evidence before the Indian Auxiliary Force and Territorial Force Committees in 1924 as a representative of the Madras Presidency, and later joined the I.T.F. in which he also gave evidence before the O'Donnell Committee appointed to inquire into the question of forming a separate province for the Oriyas and was invited to take part

in the deliberations of the Third Round Table Conference and the Joint Parliamentary Committee in London.

With the formation of the Orissa Province, Rajah Bahadur Sri Ramachandra Mardaraj Deo was appointed a member of the Advisory Committee, and, on the inauguration of Provincial Autonomy, was elected uncontested to the Provincial Legislature from a General Constituency—the only landlord to be then so elected. He was a leading member of the Opposition in the Orissa Legislative Assembly and led the Opposition against the Madras Estates Land Act with considerable vigour and ultimate success. Later, on the resignation of the Congress Ministry, the Rajah Bahadur was invited to form a Cabinet, but he declined the invitation.

#### A Shikari

A forceful speaker, he presided over the All-India Nationalists Conference held at Nagpur in 1940 to enlist public co-operation in the country's war effort.

The Rajah Bahadur holds advanced and broad views on social, religious and political questions. He is a good shikari and a dog fancier and maintains a kennel of rare breeds. His collection of trophies from dog shows and races is a large one.

Rambha Palace, where the Rajah Bahadur generally resides, is on the shores of the famous Chilka Lake and commands a picturesque view. Lord Curzon, a former Viceroy of India, and many Governors of Madras were among the Rajah Bahadur's distinguished guests at this Palace.

The title of Rajah (personal) was conferred on him in 1929 and, five years later, this title was made hereditary. He received the title of Rajah Bahadur in 1936.



#### LIEUT.-GEN. SOMERVELL

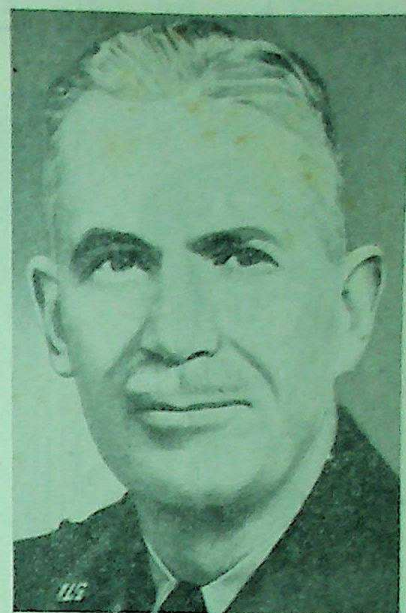
##### CHIEF OF U. S. ARMY SUPPLY SERVICE

**A**rmed with the combination of methodical calculation and intuitive flash of the born engineer, Lieutenant-General Brehon Somervell has the vast job of keeping the United States Army supplied, housed and transported, wherever it may be. As Chief of the services of Supply—one of the three divisions functioning under the Chief of Staff—he must be ready at any time to supply American soldiers with anything from coffee to tanks.

Every one of the dozens of new military camps where the expanded American Army is now training bears the mark of Lieut.-Gen. Somervell. In addition, he supervised the building of factories for Army supplies and roads for Army travel. Within nine months, his Construction Division of the Quartermaster Corps built quarters for more than 1,200,000 men. Out of raw lumber and uncleared lands there rose more than 50 major troop-towns for 15,000 to 65,000 men each. And this was only part of his job.

#### Vast Building Programme

Awarded the Army Oak Leaf Cluster in 1942 for "the greatest building programme of modern times," Lieut.-General Somervell



LIEUT.-GENERAL BREHON SOMERVELL

summed up the programme as including "about 30 reception centres to take care of the selectees; a score or so of replacement training centres, where they can get preliminary training; about nine big general hospitals; 70 or 80 fields for the Air Corps; 50 harbour defence jobs; a hundred or more housing developments for defence project workers; 48 munitions plants and ordnance factories."

Tall, lanky with an easy-going "country boy" air that contrasts with his powerful drive for accomplishment, General Somervell comes from the southern part of the United States. He was graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1914 and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Engineers Corps.

#### Engineer In France

When the United States entered the first World War, General Somervell was one of the first U.S. Army engineers in France. He built ammunition dumps so well that he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for the job.

After the war, he reported navigation conditions on the Rhine and the Danube, made a seven-volume study of the economic state of Turkey for Kemal Ataturk, and took charge of the construction of a ship canal across Florida.

In 1936, General Somervell was lent by the Army to the Federal public works programme, and he completely reorganised and administered the work around New York City. In three years, he supervised the construction of a \$40,000,000 airport, miles of roads, sewers, bridges, schools and recreational facilities.

All the experience gained in 28 years of diverse and difficult duties is being called into play in his present job. Rifles for the privates, caterpillar treads for tanks, flares for the signal pistols, flour for the bakers, wool for uniforms, powder for the bullets of machine-guns—the whole monster output of America's booming war industry pours through General Somervell's efficient machinery into the hands of United States Army fighting men.



## PERSONALITIES

### The Middle East Command—

### LIEUT.-GEN. BERNARD MONTGOMERY



General Sir H. R. L. G. Alexander, the new C.-in-C., Allied Forces in the Middle East, and Lieut.-General Bernard Montgomery, G. O. C., Eighth Army.

### GENERAL ALEXANDER, C.-IN-C., MIDDLE EAST

**T**he appointment of General Alexander as Commander-in-Chief of the Middle East Forces is significant considering the more recent military developments strategically linking Egypt with the Caucasus. With his experience gained in France and Belgium and during the Burma campaign, General Alexander should prove a great asset to the Allied forces in the Middle East sector.

Born in 1891, General Alexander served with great distinction in France during the last European War (1914-18) when he was mentioned five times in despatches, and was awarded the D.S.O. and M.C., the Legion of Honour, and the Order of St. Anne. Among the important Army appointments he has held in peace-time are: General Staff Officer, 1st Grade,

Northern Command (1932-34), Commander Nowshera Brigade, Northern Command, India (1934-38). He was A.D.C. to the King in 1936-37. When the present war broke out he went to France as Commander of the First Division and played a heroic part in evacuating the B.E.F. from Belgium at the end of the Allied campaign in France in 1940, being the last man to leave Dunkirk. He succeeded General Auchinleck as G.O.C.-in-Chief, Southern Command, in 1941 and was put in charge of the Burma campaign early this year. His fighting retreat from there robbed the Japanese of a Malayan triumph, saved his army from annihilation and allowed General Wavell valuable time to organise and strengthen the defence of India. Affectionately known as fighting Alex, he has the gift of inspiring confidence and the offensive spirit into his troops.

**L**ieut.-General Bernard Law Montgomery, the new Commander of the Eighth Army, is 54 years of age. Short, spare, with bright eyes and the healthy tanned complexion of an active man who lives much in open air, General Montgomery is one of the Generals most widely known to the army at large. Promotions have never taken him away from the men under his command. He has always made it a rule to spend as little as possible of his time at his desk, and as much as possible visiting his troops. Today General Montgomery is as fit as he was when he joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment as a Second Lieutenant 34 years ago.

#### Hard Taskmaster

No leader was ever more insistent that a good soldier must bring all he has to his task—body, mind and spirit. In the South-Eastern Command every man has been made master of his job and the instruments needed for its performance. Automatic weapons, armoured fighting vehicles, aircraft, gliders and parachutes—all have their adjusted place in the scheme.

General Montgomery is an old and close friend of General Sir Bernard Paget, C.-in-C. of the Home Forces. The two leaders have strong resemblances; their careers have run on parallel lines. They are both sons of bishops. They are deeply religious and wholehearted in their life-long devotion to the army. In their different ways they both have the gift of the right word at the right moment which has marked many successful commanders.

#### Service In Last War

Lieut.-General Montgomery joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment from Sandhurst in 1908. Within a month of the landing in France in August, 1914, he was temporary Captain. During the four years of war he had more than three years' service on the Western Front, was wounded twice, was mentioned in despatches six times, and won the D.S.O. and the French Military Cross. When the Armistice was signed, he had been for several months temporary Lieutenant-Colonel and General Staff Officer, first grade.

In August, 1937, he was given a brigade in the Southern Command with the rank of Brigadier, and was promoted Major-General the following May. He took the 3rd Division to France as part of the Second Corps and led them throughout the campaign in Western Europe. They embarked from the beaches of Dunkirk on the night of May 31—June 1, 1940. Since then, General Montgomery has commanded an army corps in Great Britain and since December, 1941, has been General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, South-Eastern Command.

### SIR M. ZAFRULLA KHAN

Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan has returned to India to resume his duties as Puisne Judge in the Federal Court on the termination of the period for which he had been spared from his duties in India to inaugurate the representation of India in China.

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 1, 1942



## WEIGHTS, MEASURES—COINAGE—GLOSSARY—POINTS ABOUT INDIA

### WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Weights and measures in India vary not only from district to district but also for different commodities.

The principal units in all the scales of weights are the maund, seer and tola, and the standard weights for each of these are 82.28 lbs., 2.057 lbs. and 180 grains troy respectively.

The Indian tola is the same weight as the rupee, viz., 180 grains troy; the standard or railway seer is equal to 2.057 lbs. while the standard or railway maund of 40 seers is equivalent to 82 lbs. 4 oz. 9 drams. There are numerous local variations.

### COINAGE—RUPEE IN DOLLARS AND POUNDS

Re. 1 is approximately 1sh. 6d. or 30.05 cents.  
Rs. 100 are approximately £7/9/6 or \$30.05.  
Rs. 1,000 are approximately £74/14/10 or \$300.53.  
Rs. 1,00,000 (a lakh) are approximately £7,473/19/2 or \$30,053.  
Rs. 1,00,00,000 (a crore) are approximately £747,395/16/8 or \$3,005,259.  
100,000 is one lakh (1,00,000)  
10,000,000 is one crore (1,00,00,000)

#### COINAGE

3 pies are 1 pice.  
4 pice are 1 anna.  
16 annas are 1 rupee.

### GLOSSARY OF SOME COMMON INDIAN TERMS

Kumar	~ A prince; Rajkumar, son of an Indian Raja.
Lascar	~ An Indian seaman; a sailor.
Madrassa	~ A Muslim High School.
Mahajan	~ A money-lender; a merchant.
Maulana	~ An erudite Muslim; a Muslim scholar.
Mazdoor	~ A labourer.
Mela	~ A fair; an exhibition.
Mistri	~ A mechanic; mason; carpenter or foreman.
Mofussil	~ The interior of a district or province as distinguished from the headquarters.
Moulvi	~ A learned person (Muslim).
Nawab	~ Muslim ruler or chief; a title.
Nawabzada	~ Son of a Nawab (zada, a son).
Paddy	~ Rice in the husk.
Panchayat	~ A committee for the management of the affairs of a village or a caste; theoretically the committee consists of five (panch) men.
Pandit (or Pundit)	~ A Hindu title, applied to a person versed in the Hindu scriptures. A Brahmin scholar.
Peon	~ Bearer; orderly.
Pir	~ A Muslim saint or religious teacher.
Pleader	~ A lawyer; a legal practitioner.
Pucca	~ Ripe; mature; cooked; made of brick (as applied to a house); regular; correct; proper; expert.
Puja	~ Worship ( <i>pujari</i> , a priest).
Purdah	~ A veil or curtain; the practice of keeping women in seclusion.
Raiyat (or Ryot)	~ A farmer; an agriculturist.
Sabha	~ Assembly; meeting.
Sadar	~ The headquarters of a district.
Sadhu	~ A Hindu ascetic.
Sanad	~ A charter or grant; a deed of grant.
Sanyasi	~ A Hindu ascetic or mendicant.
Sardar (or Sirdar)	~ Leader; headman; a Sikh title.
Sarkar (or Sircar)	~ A manager or accountant; the Government.
Satyagraha	~ Passive resistance (literally, insistence on or acceptance of truth).
Shroff	~ A Banker (commonly used in Bombay).
Swadesi	~ Of one's own country; made in India.
Tahsil (or Tehsil)	~ A revenue sub-division of a district. Hence "Tehsildar," the officer in charge of a tehsil.
Taluk	~ A revenue sub-division or holding; an estate. (Hence "Talukdar," one who holds a taluk).
Tola	~ A measure of weight (equivalent to 180 grains troy).
Takil	~ An advocate; a lawyer.
Zamindar	~ A landholder. (Hence "Zemindari," an estate).
Zanana	~ Female; feminine; women's apartments.

### POINTS ABOUT INDIA

Viceroy—H. E. The Marquess of Linlithgow, K.T., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., O.B.E., D.L., T.D.



#### MEMBERS OF THE VICEROY'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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The Hon'ble Sir Reginald Maxwell, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S. (Home).  
The Hon'ble Dewan Bahadur Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar (India's Representative at the British War Cabinet and on the Pacific War Council in London).

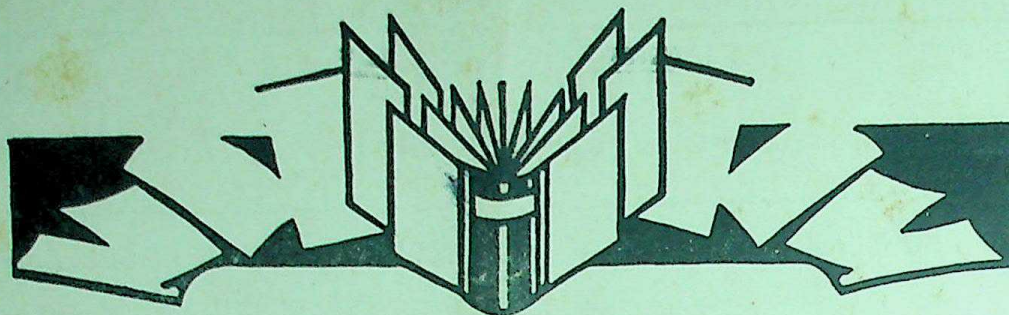
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SIND: H. E. Sir Hugh Dow, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.  
UNITED PROVINCES: H. E. Sir Maurice Garnier Hallett, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.

British India consists of the 11 provinces of: Assam, Bengal, Bihar, Bombay, Central Provinces and Berar, Madras, North-West Frontier, Orissa, Punjab, Sind, and the United Provinces, plus the Chief Commissionerships of British Baluchistan, Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara, Coorg, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Panth Piploda, and does not include any Indian States.





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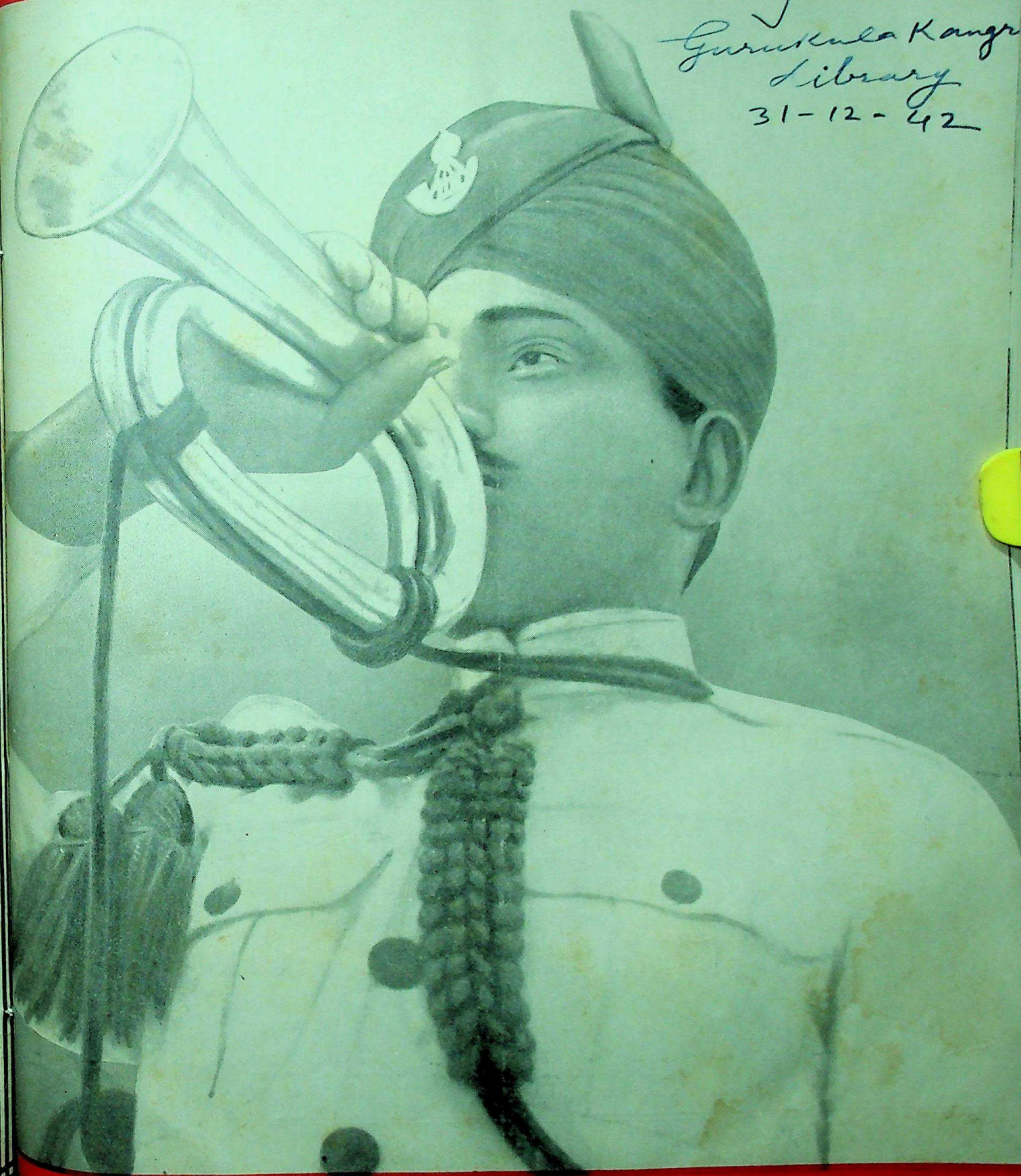
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# INDIAN INFORMATION

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No. 106, December 15,  
Published Fortnightly by the  
Information Officer,  
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● MANAGEMENT OF FORESTS ● TRAVANCORE'S COIR INDUSTRY  
● HIGHER RATES OF PAY IN R. I. N. AND INDIAN ARMY



## They Said

"The Indian Army is growing in strength month by month and has displayed its historic valour upon many fields of battle. We are proud that more than a million men are already voluntarily engaged in our Indian land, sea and air forces, and we place our full confidence in their courage and fortitude in the days of struggle that lie before them."—*His Majesty the King-Emperor, London, November 11, 1942.*



"This is a war of all the people, of every man, woman and child, in whatever walk of life, however far from the battle zone. Let each one of you remember that your individual effort, added to the joint effort of the many millions of the people of the United Nations, can shorten the war by bringing nearer the triumph of our arms, by a day, an hour, a minute. There is not a moment to be lost : for in modern warfare, which is total war, the hastening of victory by a day or an hour may mean the saving of hundreds or thousands of lives."—*H. E. the Viceroy at Quetta.*



"By increasing production and securing even distribution of our products we serve our soldiers, sailors and airmen who are giving away their lives in far-flung battlefields. It is they who give us sheltered security. They are truly the makers of New India ; they claim no sectional or communal privileges. They only know how to do and die."—*The Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh, Member for Education, Health and Lands, Delhi.*



"The Egyptian battle was fought with one single idea, to destroy the armed forces of the enemy in a place where disaster would be most punishable and irrecoverable. All the various elements played their part—Indian troops, Fighting French, Greeks, Czechoslovakians and others. The Americans rendered powerful and invaluable service in the air."—*Mr. Winston Churchill in his Mansion House Speech, London, November 10, 1942.*



## INDIAN INFORMATION

Vol. II, No. 106

December 15, 1942

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Principal Information Officer,  
Government of India. Associate  
Editor, Cecilie Leslie.

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COVER PICTURE: A BUGLER OF THE  
RAJPUTANA RIFLES

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TRAVANCORE'S WATERWAYS

ANY ITEM MAY BE REPRODUCED  
WITHOUT ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

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IS A REFERENCE RECORD.

**AIMS** :—To provide a condensed record of the main peace and war activities of the Government of India, together with some outstanding facts about the British Government's war activities. **INDIAN INFORMATION** does not compete with the Press; it exists for their convenience and is not intended for general circulation among the public.

**PUBLIC** :—All those persons and institutions whose general role is to inform the public, e.g., the public administrator, whether he be governmental (Central or Provincial), municipal, commercial, educational or institutional, the editor, the publisher, the journalist and the publicist.

**FORMAT** :—Headings, sub-titles and bold face passages are inserted to facilitate reading, but they should not in themselves necessarily be considered as expressions of official opinion or emphasis.

**CONTRIBUTIONS** :—Many MSS. are submitted to us which we regretfully return; since every thing published in **INDIAN INFORMATION** emanates from an official source, it follows that non-official contributions cannot be accepted.



## ♦ FACTS AND FIGURES ♦

There are less than 3,000 British Officials in the whole of the Civil Administration in India: less than 1 to 100,000 of a population twice as large as that of the United States.

The estimated production of tea in India for the current year is about 555 million lbs.

A tour from Bombay to Delhi, on a motor vehicle fitted with producer gas plant, was recently completed in 3½ days by officers of the Department of War Transport.

All four sons of the Roosevelts are now with the armed forces outside of continental United States. Marine Corps Major James Roosevelt is in the Solomons. The two youngest sons are lieutenants aboard destroyers—John as a supply officer for four destroyers in the Pacific, Franklin Jr. as a gunnery officer—on a destroyer in the Atlantic. Lt.-Colonel Elliott Roosevelt is with the Army Aviation Command in England.

The great 1,671-mile Alaskan high way is now open. It is bad news for the Japanese and good for Russia, for it means that the back door to Siberia is now ajar. The road runs from Dawson Creek in British Columbia to Fairbanks, Alaska. The construction has been completed in just over six months. Now trucks are carrying munitions and material over the road to the United States' most northern base. The work was carried out by 10,000 soldiers divided into seven army engineering regiments and helped by 2,000 civilian workmen. They pushed forward at the rate of 8 miles per day and had to bridge 200 rivers and streams.

The scale of the bombing raids on Germany by the R.A.F. (May and June 1942) was unprecedented. In the largest German raid on Britain, about 400 tons of bombs were dropped. In the raid on Cologne, the R.A.F. dropped 3,000 tons of bombs, including 1,000,000 incendiaries—all in the space of 90 minutes.

Today, millions of yards of camouflage nets—so valuable and yet so simple—are being made by villagers in various parts of India. In 1941-42, these nets were worth Rs. 182 lakhs to them. They will be worth Rs. 5 crores this year.

Eight thousand four hundred establishments were inspected during the year 1940-41 to make sure that 850,000 railway employees, drawing salaries of less than Rs. 200 a month, are paid promptly and without any improper deductions from their wages by the Labour Inspectorate of the Conciliation Officer (Railways) and Supervisor of Railway Labour under the Payment of Wages Act.

The grand total of subscriptions to all the Indian Defence Loans since they were first issued in June 1940 up to November 14, 1942, was Rs. 1,29,59,27,000.

Their Majesties the King and Queen have given £100 (Rs. 1,333-5-4) to be spent on a Christmas present of books to Indian prisoners of war in Europe. These have already been despatched through the Indian Comforts Fund in London.

The Coastal Command of the R.A.F. defending Allied shipping flew more than 50,000 miles in the first two years of the war; escorted 8,200 convoys; made 760 attacks on enemy vessels and sank 300,000 tons. It attacked 300 U-boats, destroyed 75 aircraft attacking convoys, and drove off 500.

Public-spirited citizens of Bangalore have worked hard for half a year to provide about 3,500 more or less destitute Indian evacuees with a place to live in, financial help, clothing and a hospital for the care of those who have contracted illness or disease during their long trek to safety.

Scientific research in Britain has given the Allies many powerful weapons of war. British scientists invented and perfected "radiolocation," a revolutionary discovery in the detection of approaching aircraft.

The Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, has published a leaflet giving the ash content of 65 Indian fuel woods (from which charcoal for producer gas plants is eventually derived) based on the examination of some 1,200 samples.

Of the 198 Indian insurers, 72 have their head offices in the Bombay Presidency, 48 in Bengal, 32 in the Madras Presidency, 17 in the Punjab, 12 in Delhi, 7 in the United Provinces, 3 in the Central Provinces, 3 in Sind, 2 in Bihar, and 1 each in Assam and Ajmer-Merwara.

The Central Government this year is spending over Rs. 10 crores on purchases of war supplies from small scale industries.

The British have collected enormous quantities of metal scrap, including 200,000 tons of railings and gates equal in weight to 12,500 medium tanks. House to house collections, buildings destroyed by air raids and other sources have yielded in all 1,000,000 tons of metal scrap—enough to build 1,000 destroyers.

Figures released in Washington by the United States Maritime Commission show that October shipbuilding in American yards—excluding naval construction—brought the ten months' total to 6,000,000 tons.

The staff and cadets of the Officers' Training School, Bangalore, have subscribed Rs. 31,500 in 4 months for the purchase of armoured carriers for the Army in India.

In regard to various supplies for Defence purposes, the timber resources of India, last year, met demands through the Department of Supply to the total of 396,000 tons and demands placed on the department in the current year are expected to reach a total of over one million tons.

The Wood Technology Section of the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, has tested ammunition boxes, army boot boxes, crates for sola topees, propellers, spars for plywood, glue joints, parachute containers and a number of other special articles completing nearly half a million tests. It has discovered a new form of construction using hard wood dowels for roof trusses and bridges, saving a considerable amount of metal and money. In one case the application of this discovery saved six lakhs of rupees.

The mobile canteen "Peoples of India," which was presented by the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, has during its two years of service travelled over 40,000 miles and served a total of over 280,000 men and women belonging to small service units in the East of England.

To send help to Russia through Iran (Persia), Britain has built special assembly plants for trucks in that country. Locomotives and freight cars are specially built in Britain to transport supplies to Russia over the Persian railroads. The quantity of planes sent through Persia increased 600 per cent in 1942.

War demands have raised the paper requirements of Government of India from about 30 per cent of Indian production to over 70 per cent.





THOUSANDS OF YOUNG MEN FROM ALL OVER INDIA ARE COMING FORWARD FOR THE DEFENCE OF THE COUNTRY

## HIGHER RATES OF PAY FOR INDIAN OTHER RANKS

**T**he basic pay of all Indian other ranks and of enrolled non-combatants has been increased by Rs. 2 per month.

Proficiency pay, granted prior to September 1 (the date on which the new rates of pay came into force) after one year's service, and giving an addition of Rs. 2-8-0 per month, are now payable after 6 months at the rate of Re. 1 per month and after a year at Rs. 3-8-0 per month. The rules governing good-service pay for N.C.O.'s have also been modified so that it may be drawn after one, two or three years' service, instead of two, four and six years' as formerly.

### Previous Scales Of Pay

In addition, in recognition of the effect of the recent rise in prices, the messing allowance for Indian soldiers on peace time ration scales in Indian Stations has been raised from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 per month. These increases, which represent an addition to the Indian Army pay-bill of roughly Rs. 5-3 crores a year, constitute the third direct increase of pay to the Indian soldier since the outbreak of war.

Improvements in pay previously introduced during the present war included one relating to present and two to future benefits. In regard to the former the messing allowance was raised from As. 10 per month to Rs. 2 per month. To safeguard his future the rate of Deferred Pay was increased from Re. 1 to Rs. 3 per month, and a Reconstruction or Resettlement Fund was started to which Government credited Rs. 2 per month for every serving

soldier to be used for the benefit of the soldier and his community after the war.

Incidentally, it might be mentioned that free issues of clothing have been substituted for the old kit allowance, under which, after an original free issue, the soldier received Rs. 2 per month as an allowance from which he was expected to replace his clothing.

### Serving Soldier's Pay

The minimum pay of an Indian serving soldier is made up of a number of rates. His basic pay on enlistment, including the new increase, is now Rs. 18 a month. After six months, in addition to this, he can receive an extra Re. 1 per month proficiency pay and after 12 months an additional Rs. 2-8-0 per month. If not on field service, in addition to both the above, he gets a messing allowance of Rs. 3 per month and a hair-cutting and washing allowance of Annas 10 per month. Apart from this he is credited throughout with Rs. 3 a month Deferred Pay, and Government also pay Rs. 2 on his behalf into the Reconstruction or Resettlement Fund. Therefore, per soldier, not on Field Service, Government pay to him or on his behalf Rs. 26-10-0 per month from the time he joins the army. After 6 months the sum is Rs. 27-10-0 per month and after a year Rs. 30-2-0.

When the soldier goes on Field Service in India he receives the higher scale of rations and *batta* at the rate of Rs. 5, so that a soldier on Field Service with 12 months' service earns Rs. 31-8-0. If he goes on service overseas he gets a further

Rs. 7 per month Expatriation allowance. Thus, an Indian Soldier on Field Service overseas who has been in the army for 12 months or more earns a total of Rs. 38-8-0. Overseas, in hard cash, the Sepoy receives Rs. 33-8-0, the L/Naik Rs. 35-8-0, the Naik Rs. 46 to Rs. 48, and the Havildar Rs. 49 to Rs. 53.

### New Benefits

In addition to his pay and allowance he is fed, clothed and accommodated free, receives free medical attendance and lighting, free travel when granted furlough, and travel concessions when granted leave. He is exempt from local taxation for Municipal Services, and when necessary receives free fuel. At a conservative estimate these concessions in kind represent at least Rs. 21 per month in cash to the man not on Field Service and a correspondingly larger amount to the man on Field or Overseas service.

Although the supplies and services received in kind by the soldier not only represent a substantial saving to his pocket but also protect him to a large extent from price fluctuations, Government recognise that the soldier, particularly the man who has to maintain a family or dependants, is not wholly immune from the effects of the general rise in prices. It is in order still further to protect the soldier and improve his position that Government decided to afford these new benefits.

Increases granted since September 1939, now involve an additional annual expenditure of between Rs. 10 and Rs. 11 crores.



## DEFENCE



General Wavell with General Lo Cho-ying and British, Chinese and American Staff Officers during his visit to the Chinese forces training base in India

### GENERAL WAVELL VISITS CHINESE TROOPS

The Commander-in-Chief recently paid a visit to the training base of the Chinese Forces in India. Arriving by air, General Wavell was received by Major General Y. K. Yang, Chief of Staff, Chinese Expeditionary Force, and Colonel Haydon L. Boatner, Chief of Staff of the Chinese Army in India.

On arrival at the Chinese Headquarters General Wavell was met by General Lo Cho-ying. After receiving a salute of drum and bugle flourishes, followed by the "General's March," played by a Chinese Drum and Bugle Corps, General Wavell inspected a guard of honour composed of a Chinese regiment which served in the Burma campaign with particular distinction.

General Wavell was then introduced by General Lo Cho-ying to the senior Chinese and American Staff Officers, and spent some time with them discussing their work.

The Commander-in-Chief then went out into the country to see some of the intensive training being undertaken by the Chinese troops. Re-equipped with modern American weapons, in the use of which they are being

trained by U.S. Army Staff Instructors, Chinese Officers and men gave General Wavell an impressive demonstration of their speed and efficiency in absorbing the training being given them. The Commander-in-Chief spent some time with Chinese gunners, in whose demonstration he showed great interest.

Before leaving, General Wavell warmly congratulated General Lo Cho-ying and his staff on the excellent condition and keenness shown by Officers and men.

#### GENERAL WAVELL'S MESSAGE TO BRITISH MILITARY MISSION

Here is the message sent by H. E. the Commander-in-Chief, General Sir Archibald Wavell, to the British Military Mission in Moscow:

"Please convey to the Supreme Commander of the Russian Armed Forces our congratulations on the 25th anniversary of the U.S.S.R., and the unbounded admiration of the Indian and British forces under my command for the undiminished courage and resistance of their Russian brothers in arms."

### PATROL THROUGH CITY OF THE DEAD

#### Indian Army Observer's Story Of Burma Journey

I have penetrated through enemy occupied Burma to a city of the dead, writes an Indian Army Observer who has returned across the frontier to India.

"Routine" operation they called the patrol when we left our base on the "home" side of the border, where for the last few months cloud, mist and rain have enveloped the countryside.

We struck off the road after a few miles and followed a bridle path which plunged through dense tropical foliage. Soon we were provided with our first typical example of the high degree of improvisation

which is a feature of these operations in Burma.

Across a raging stream, a temporary bridge of bamboo and telephone wire had been constructed by an earlier patrol. To supports on either side of the river had been fastened several strands of wire from which the superstructure of the temporary bridge was suspended. The roadway was formed by inter-laced bamboo, covered with cane matting which, in an emergency, would be capable of bearing a light motor-vehicle. Across the bridge, the ground rose to over 2,000 feet in a distance of just under two miles. The path up which we struggled, during a downpour

of rain, was a mountain stream in full flood. Our arrival, drenched and exhausted, at the summit brought us to the end of the first of many days of marching—and to an advance post situated in a Naga village.

Next day we continued down into a valley. The rain had stopped for a while but as we descended the temperature increased and our clothing was as wet from perspiration as it had been on the previous day from rain. The going was easier now and in the early afternoon we contacted our most advanced position, which is held by Indian troops—in fact it has never been evacuated.

So far we had not met opposition. Occasionally a snake would slither across the path in front of us, and deep in the jungle we would hear the screaming of monkeys disturbed by our approach.

From time to time, figures, semi-naked but carrying a rifle and ammunition, would leap out in front of us from the jungle and make a mystic sign. They were members of the guerilla force, drawn from Naga and Kuki tribesmen, who operate throughout the hills. Having satisfied themselves as to our *bona fides* they would disappear again into the jungle.

#### Skeletons In The Rooms

Once we met a party of refugees, numbering about forty, making for India. They told a pitiful tale of Japanese and traitor-Burman cruelty and treachery. Out of the original party, they declared, several had been killed by Burman dacoits.

Burmans whom we occasionally met towards the end of the outward journey appeared to be friendly and answered freely all questions asked by the Intelligence Officer who accompanied the patrol.

Late one afternoon we arrived at our destination—formerly a busy centre, now literally a city of the dead. There was no sign of life. Buildings appeared as if they were still occupied. On entering we found sometimes only emptiness, but sometimes human skeletons, lying around the various rooms. Cars were parked along the streets as though the owners had stopped for a moment to do some shopping. I opened the door of one of these cars and found a skeleton inside.

#### Mosquitoes And Sand-flies

We turned, then, towards India. Through rivers we waded and through mud, into which at times we sank knee-deep. Day after day, swarms of mosquitoes and sand-flies tormented us. Here we improvised a bridge. There we hacked a way through dense undergrowth. Always we watched for—hoped for—signs of the enemy, for the memory lingered of the city of the dead.

And so, day by day, all along this extensive Eastern Front patrols go out, scouting and probing—unspectacular, perhaps; routine, by name; but vitally essential and deadly efficient nevertheless.

Occasionally they find the enemy. Then, moving stealthily by night, avoiding all human habitation in order to neutralise the "jungle telegraph," which with astonishing speed sends word of any unusual event, the patrol proceeds to its objective.

"Routine" they call it, these men of action.

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1942



# AWARDS FOR GALLANTRY IN BURMA

His Excellency the Viceroy is pleased to sanction the following periodical awards for services rendered in action in Burma:—

## INDIAN ORDER OF MERIT (2nd Class)

**Jemadar Jowala Singh** Throughout the operations, Jemadar JOWALA SINGH, V.C.O., Indian Artillery, displayed leadership and initiative of a high order. His personal example of courage and cheerfulness throughout was an example to all ranks.

**Subedar Kalandar Khan** Subedar KALANDAR KHAN, V.C.O., 12th Frontier Force Regiment (Posthumous), was commanding the left hand Company on February 19, 1942, in an attack on a strong enemy position on a hill. Owing to the very thick jungle and heavy enemy mortar fire his two rear platoons lost contact. Subedar Kalandar Khan led his remaining men forward and captured an enemy position at the point of the bayonet suffering very heavy casualties. He then led his men forward against a strong enemy position but was repulsed three times with casualties. At this stage only five men remained unwounded. Subedar Kalandar Khan then went round the right flank to try to contact another Company on that flank. When he was about 60 yards away, a group of about 30 Japanese were seen to be approaching towards him. The remaining Section warned him to retire and gave covering fire. He ignored the warning and with amazing courage attacked the enemy alone. He was killed almost immediately before the remaining men could get to his assistance.

(His widow, if any, is admitted to the pension of the Second Class of the Order with effect from the date of his death.)

**Naik Dhanlal Gurung** No. 3625 Naik DHANLAL GURUNG's (4th Gurkha Rifles) Company was heavily attacked by at least two Companies of the enemy supported by very heavy and accurate Mortar and L.M.G. fire. A rifle-man of this N.C.O.'s platoon was hit and left lying in an open field. Naik Dhanlal went out under heavy fire, collected the equipment and then the wounded man. By his action he steadied his platoon which was badly shaken. Later on, the Company counter-attacked in the dark and regained its position. Naik Dhanlal again exhibiting great leadership and bravery.

**Havildar Bhim Sing Gurung** No. 3538 HAVILDAR BHIM SING GURUNG's [4th Gurkha Rifles (Posthumous)] Company, during a withdrawal on March 7, was overrun in the darkness by enemy, many of whom were concealed in houses in the rear of their position. Among several individual acts of gallantry and leadership it is difficult to select any one individual, but this N.C.O. was prominent throughout the action. When his platoon was under fire from three directions he stood up on top of a railway embankment and fired a Bren Gun at the enemy until he was overwhelmed and bayoneted. In fighting gallantly to the end he will be an inspiration

and an example to all those who follow on to avenge his death.

(His widow, if any, is admitted to the pension of the Second Class of the Order with effect from the date of his death.)

**Jemadar Sohan Lal** Jemadar SOHAN LAL, 10th Baluch Regiment, on the night of February 11/12, 1942, was commanding the Company's reserve platoon, when the enemy attacked with very superior numbers and succeeded in penetrating the Company defences. This V.C.O. was on six occasions ordered to counter-attack. Each of these counter-attacks was successful. All through the battle Jem. Sohan Lal displayed courage, leadership and energy. At 07.30 hrs. when the battalion position was overrun, in order to deceive the enemy into believing that the Company position was still intact, this V.C.O., together with his Company Commander and a couple of men, stood in full view of the enemy and shouted Dogra 'War Cries' of encouragement. Jem. Sohan Lal was eventually captured with his Company Commander but succeeded in escaping by killing his captor.

**Rifleman Balu Pun** No. 4234 Rifleman BALU PUN, 4th Gurkha Rifles, (Posthumous), on March 7, when his Company was overrun in the withdrawal, was outstanding in bravery and determination among many others who died fighting to the last. Surrounded and under extremely heavy fire from all directions rifleman Balu Pun stood up to the final enemy charge mowing them down with his Bren Gun until he was overwhelmed. In fighting to the last he is an example and inspiration to all who aspire to be a soldier.

(His widow, if any, is admitted to the pension of the Second Class of the Order with effect from the date of his death.)

**Jemadar Dhirbahadur Gurung** Jemadar DHIRBAHADUR GURUNG, 5th Royal Gurkha Rifles, after a surprise opening of fire on February 22, 1942, was ordered to take an improvised platoon from H.Q. Company to clear a nest of snipers who were inflicting casualties on the halted M.T. He led this attack with great determination and dislodged the snipers. He was then ordered back to battalion H.Q. Throughout the rest of this day he was instrumental in organising platoons and rallying his men in the face of fierce attack. He continued this good work the following day. At the end he was ordered by his C.O. to go forward alone to find a village which he did. As a non-swimmer he then crossed the river, helping to paddle a raft on which there were three wounded men and four non-swimmers. Throughout these two days he set a magnificent example.

**Subedar Bombahadur Rai** Subedar BOMBAHADUR RAI, 7th Gurkha Rifles, was in charge of the machine-gun platoon of his regiment. Between February 5-9, two sections of these M.G.'s in position on the water front were subjected to persistent heavy artillery shelling and air bombardment. Entirely due to the courage, leadership, and energy of this Gurkha officer, these sections maintained their positions and so were able to continue to

hold a very vital position of the front. In the withdrawal from the Sittang River this Gurkha officer, by means of rafts, was successful in getting across the river a party with their entire arms and equipment under conditions of great difficulty. Throughout the operations this Gurkha officer has shown bravery and devotion to duty of an exceptionally high order. The example he has set has been very inspiring to all ranks, and has been of the very highest order.

**Actg. Sub.-Major Sher Muhammad** Acting Subedar-Major SHER MUHAMMAD, SARDAR BAHADUR, O.B.I., 9th Jat Regiment, commanded a company for 9 days whilst in contact with the enemy. For 5 days whilst under constant fire at short range this V.C.O. held a line of defence in hastily constructed trenches from which movement was impossible except at night. In spite of enemy infiltrations which outflanked his left, he held on and inflicted severe losses; he was forced to withdraw when practically surrounded. This was executed in good order and practically none of his Company lost. Four days later this V.C.O. was a tower of strength by holding a sector of a position covering the evacuation of a force over the Sittang River, in spite of being bombed. His energy, reliability, cheerfulness and personal example has been an inspiration to all who have been in contact with him.

**Naik Dalip Singh** No. 39305 Naik DALIP SINGH, Indian Artillery, (Posthumous), set a very fine example to all by his hard work and coolness under fire while helping to bring the guns into action. When wounded he kept on encouraging his men and later died of wounds.

(His widow, if any, is admitted to the pension of the Second Class of the Order with effect from the date of his death.)

**Subedar Mula Singh** The Company commanded by Subedar MULA SINGH, 13th Frontier Force Rifles, was sent on a detached mission on March 30, when it suddenly came under heavy fire from the enemy in an entrenched position in a town. By his cool behaviour and personal example the Company was reorganised under very difficult circumstances; the enemy were dislodged and the advance continued. On May 1, his Company came under heavy mortar and machine-gun fire in completely open country. Though wounded in the face and unable to speak, he maintained his Company in position by signs and sheer force of will-power, refusing to be evacuated until quieter conditions prevailed. On every occasion that this V.C.O.'s Company has been in action, he has shown a complete disregard for his own personal safety and has invariably been an outstanding example to all those under him.

**L./Naik Sain Sing Punwar** On April 18, No. 7752 L./Naik SAIN SING PUNWAR, 18th Royal Garhwal Rifles, accompanied his officer in attacking a strong enemy post. The leading sections came under heavy machine-gun fire from a strongly entrenched machine-gun post and suffered several casualties. Naik Sain Sing Punwar with complete disregard for personal safety worked forward to a post from where he was able to silence the enemy opposition by throwing hand grenades.



**Subedar-Major Saharman Rai** In every action in which the battalion has been engaged, Subedar-Major SAHARMAN RAI, I.D.S.M., 7th Gurkha Rifles, has shown a complete absence of fear and disregard for his personal safety. This Gurkha officer has repeatedly exposed himself to fire with the object of giving confidence to the troops near him, and has shown complete indifference to air attacks. On numerous occasions he has been invaluable to his C.O. in re-organising Battalion H.Q. and H.Q. companies in the confusion of battle. To British officers and Gurkha officers alike he has shown a splendid example of coolness and courage in the most difficult situations.

## WESTERN DESERT AWARDS

Acts of heroism in the fighting in the Western Desert are revealed by the award of the Indian Distinguished Service Medal to members of the Indian Army.

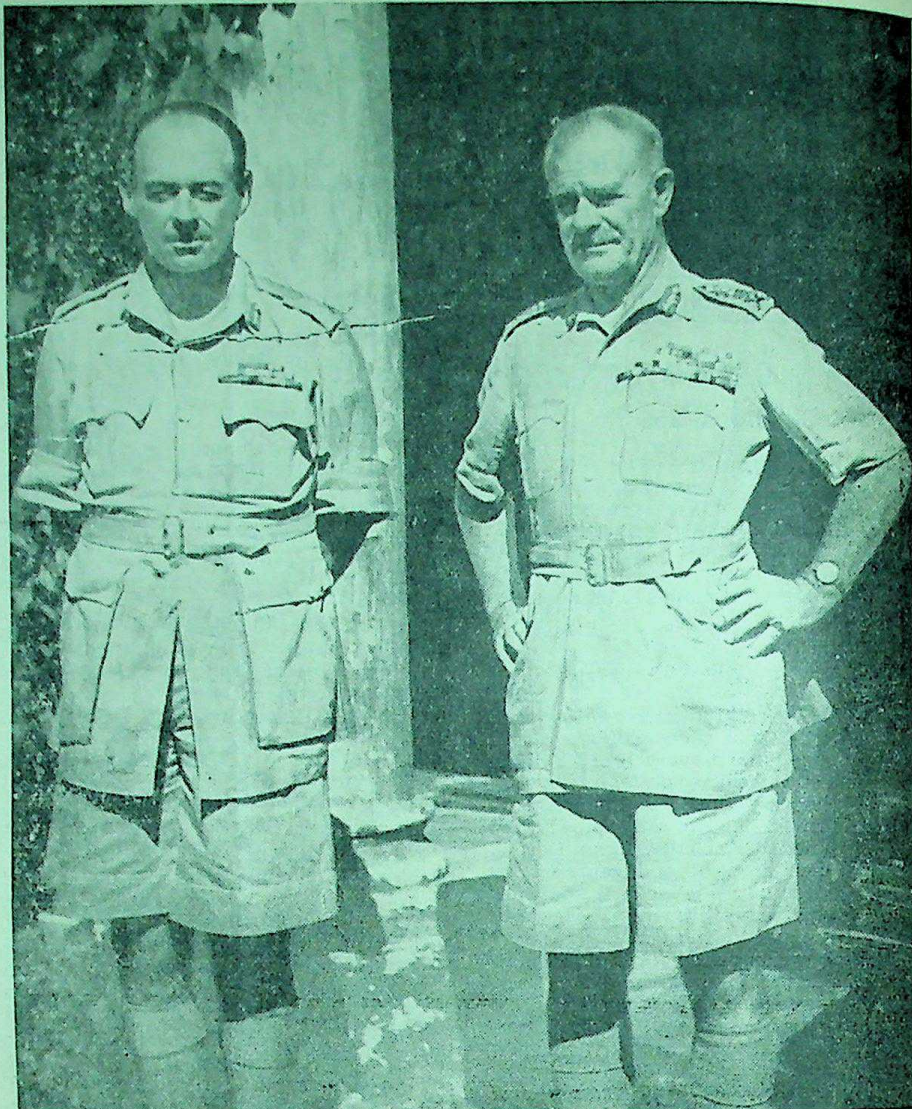
### I. D. S. M.

**Jemadar Bacharam Jadhao** At Dahar-el-Aslagh on June 5, Jemadar Bacharam Jadhao of the Indian Engineers, who is a Mahratta from Bharatgaon village, Satara tehsil, Satara district, commanded part of a field company which was overrun by enemy tanks. He withdrew his men to a fresh position, and then went back in order to save three wounded men who had been left behind. The following day, when the new position was captured, his high qualities of leadership under fire resulted in neither men nor material falling into enemy hands.

**Lance-Naik Chockalingam** In the same action Lance-Naik Chockalingam of the 9th Indian Infantry Brigade Signal Section, seated in a wireless truck in full view of 40 enemy tanks continued to pass messages after his truck had received three direct hits, one of which wounded him. He is a Hindu Tamil, and comes from Melmagalam village, Perujakulam tehsil, in Madara district.

**Lance-Naik Siri Chand** At Bir-el-Aslagh on June 5, Lance-Naik Siri Chand of 9th Jat Regiment, without regard for personal safety made five journeys over flat ground under machine-gun fire in order to save the lives of five men who were badly wounded. He is a Hindu Jat from Mehipur village, Sonapat P. O., Murthal tehsil, in Rohtak district.

**Havildar Shanker Dass** Havildar Shanker Dass of the 10th Baluch Regiment, a Dogra Brahman of Jindra village, Hamirpur tehsil, in Kangra district, commanded a fighting patrol at a spot known as the Cauldron on June 3. He had reached a point 70 yards from an enemy position when the alarm was raised. In the face of fire from four machine-guns he led his men in a charge, and had reached a point only 40 yards from the position when heavy bombing wounded 10 of his 21 men. His object of obtaining information having been achieved, he withdrew all his men except one who had been killed.



General Wavell (right) with Lieut.-General N. M. S. Irwin, Commander of the Eastern Army, when he inspected troops on India's North-Eastern Frontier

**L.-Naik Churamani Thapa** Lance-Naik Churamani Thapa of the 3rd Gurkha Rifles was company signaller in the Deir-es-Shein box on July 1, when communications were cut. He volunteered to mend the lines, and worked on open ground under heavy shell fire from tanks only 100 yards away. A Gurkha Magar, Lance-Naik Thapa, comes from Mallajha village, tehsil No. 4 West, in Parbat district.

**Actg.-Subedar Punnu Ram** Driving a truck back; wards and forwards under a furious barrage of shells, Jemadar (now Acting-Subedar) Punnu Ram of the Baluch Regiment saved many of his men who were in danger of extermination or capture.

For this act of gallantry at the spot known as the Cauldron in the Western Desert on June 6, Jemadar Ram has been awarded a bar to the Indian Distinguished Service Medal.

When this V.C.O. saw that his company had been overrun by enemy tanks, he filled a truck with men and drove them to safety. Then he returned to his men, and brought another truck-load through the circle of enemy tanks. With complete disregard for his own safety, he made a third hazardous trip. On each occasion Jemadar Ram had to drive over ground which was being subjected to the most intense bombardment by enemy artillery and tanks, and an Indian Army Observer, who witnessed the exploit, described it as a "grand example of initiative and courage."

Jemadar Ram is a Dogra Brahman, and comes from Lalhian village, Hamirpur tehsil, in Kangra district.

### I. O. M.

Stories of bravery in the Western Desert are contained in announcements of awards of the Indian Order of Merit to two V. C. Os., Subedar Kishan Singh Thapa of 3rd Gurkha Rifles, and Jemadar Ghulam Sarwar of 9th Jat Regiment.

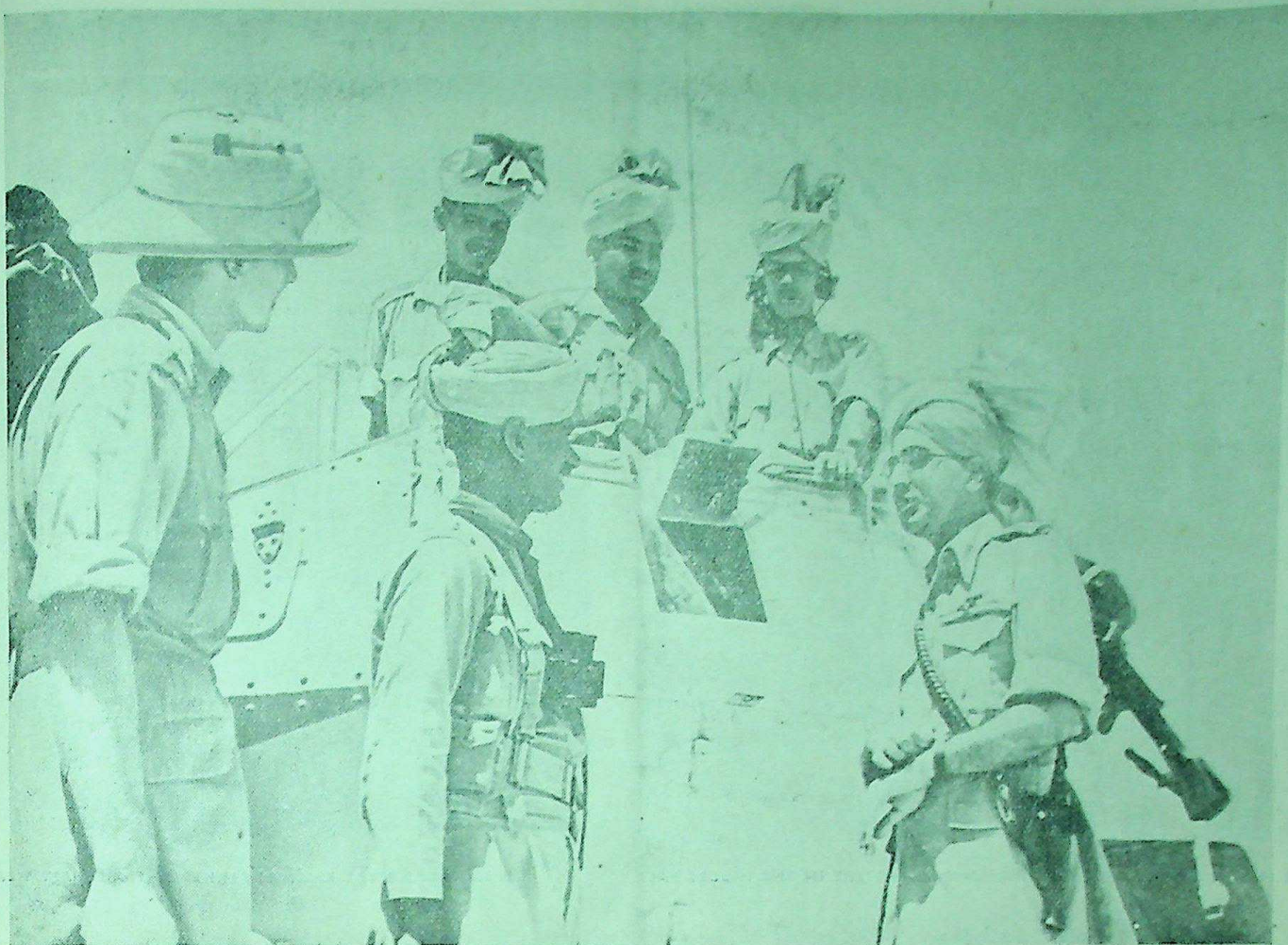
**Subedar K. S. Thapa** Subedar Kishan Singh Thapa commanded four anti-tank guns in the Deir-es-Shein box on July 1, when one gun was knocked out by enemy fire. Braving shells from four enemy tanks only 300 yards away, he got the damaged gun back into action, and destroyed an enemy machine-gun post. Subedar Thapa is a Gurkha Magar of Sisakhani village, Gulmi tehsil, in Thum Musikot district.

**Jemadar Ghulam Sarwar**

Courage and powers of leadership of a high order were displayed by Jemadar Sarwar at Bir-el-Aslagh on June 5-6. When his Commanding Officer and the second-in-command were killed, this V. C. O. took charge of a large number of men, and established them as an escort for our artillery, in grave danger of being overrun by the enemy. Jemadar Sarwar is a Punjabi Mussalman of Pothirajgan village, Kharian tehsil, in Aimashakji district.

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER, 15, 1942





SIR SIKANDAR HYAT KHAN, THE PUNJAB PREMIER, TALKING TO MEN OF THE POONA HORSE DURING HIS VISIT TO THE MIDDLE EAST

## THE VICEROY PRAISES PUNJAB'S WAR EFFORT

"Let us hold on grimly and watch for our opportunity. All our training, our stubbornness, our confidence and enthusiasm will have its reward. Soon now we shall throw our enemy, and it will be a mighty fall. He will never rise again and we shall stand forth at last victors, and free men in a free world," said His Excellency the Viceroy replying to the address of welcome read to him at a big gathering including His Excellency the Governor of the Punjab at the Rawalpindi Durbar.

His Excellency continued: "No man could witness unmoved a gathering such as yours today, in this famous Division of a famous Province; and it is with deep gratitude and pride that I, your Viceroy, have listened to your words of welcome and to the splendid record of your achievements.

"Wherever in the world there is talk of brave deeds and soldier-like qualities, of endurance and fortitude, the men of this land are brought to mind. Here for centuries generations of sturdy farmers have won their harvests from the hard earth, and have defended their heritage with courage and resolution. Since the dawn of history India has bred famous soldiers; the hills and plains which surround us can justly claim to be a cradle of heroes, of a soil which has nourished the flower of India's armies. There are among us today

brave men who fought for freedom and civilization in the last World War, and now that these two precious jewels are in peril once again, their sons and grandsons are keeping bright and sharp the sword they forged and are facing our common enemies with the same stout shield.

### Fresh Laurels

"On every battlefield of this war, where our armies are fighting and have fought, Punjabis have won fresh laurels: in France and the Middle East, in East Africa, in the Far East and in Burma. And where our armies stand on guard, or eagerly await the order to attack, there are Punjabis to be found, valiant wardens of their native land and loyal upholders of the United Nations' cause.

"Foremost among them are the men whom the martial clans of this Division have sent forth. Your record of recruitment is magnificent, and you and your Recruiting Staff are justly proud of it. Your young men, following the honourable path of service which their fathers trod, have discovered that modern war gives them new weapons to master, and strange elements in which to excel. But, whether in the Royal Indian Navy, where they are so strongly represented, or in the Indian Air Force, or handling tanks and carriers with the same skill and confidence as a few years ago they rode their horses, the fighting men

of the Punjab today nobly maintain and enhance the great traditions to which they are worthy heirs.

"The fighting man," as a young Englishman, who was killed in the last war, wrote—

*'The fighting man shall from the Sun,  
Take warmth, and life from the glowing  
earth ;*

*Speed with the lightfoot winds to run,  
And with the trees to newer birth ;  
And find, when fighting shall be done,  
Great rest, and fulness after dearth.'*

"I believe that our soldiers will have found something else as well, something of great value in the task which will still face us all, once victory is ours, the task of setting to rights a shattered and disjointed world. They will have discovered unity of purpose and of endeavour. Such unity, though it may sometimes seem to be hidden unfathomably deep in India, is not, I believe, really so far below the surface. Certainly the war is day by day developing a very real sense of its urgency and importance in the minds of all thinking men. And among India's fighting men, the comradeship and loyalty of the battlefield will have engendered so strong a sense of unity with their brothers in arms, not only of Indian race, but of all peoples of the United Nations too, that, please God, when





THE PUNJAB PREMIER VISITED AN INDIAN A. A. BATTERY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



SIR SIKANDAR HYAT KHAN EXAMINES ANTI-AIRCRAFT WEAPONS

fighting is over, it will remain as one of the fruits of victory to inspire and illumine all our endeavours in the post-war world with a spirit of co-operation and goodwill.

#### Watching And Waiting

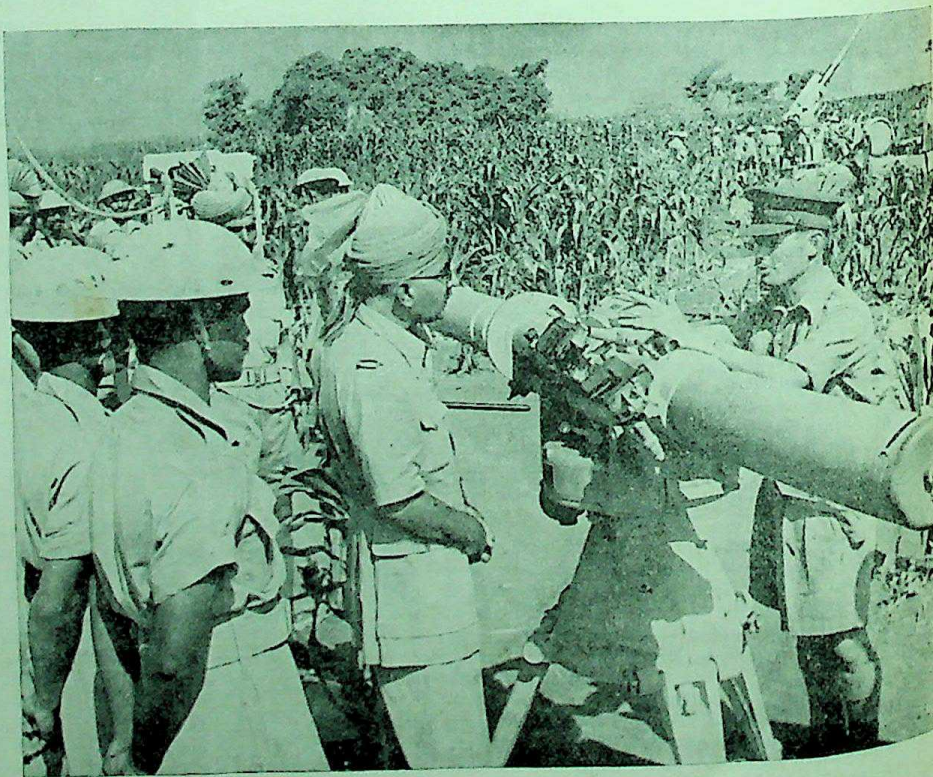
"I have said before that in modern warfare the battle front is of infinite depth. It runs through the homes and lives of all of us, and there is not a man, woman or child that cannot play a useful part. War, as you know, is not all fighting. Much of it has always been the unspectacular business of watching and waiting, of training and preparation, of co-operation in a thousand different ways behind the lines. In modern warfare particularly, a very important part is the attitude of mind of the peoples engaged, soldiers and civil population alike; a sense of realities, a determination never to yield to despair or impatience, which we call morale. The National War Front in India, a movement which is gaining in strength from day to day provides an opportunity for every one of us to bear a share in building up and maintaining that spirit of confidence, resolution and co-operation throughout the country, which is such a powerful support for the soldier in the front line.

"You in Rawalpindi, who naturally look at these things through soldiers' eyes, will realise the importance of what I say. I was most encouraged to hear of the many ways in which, besides the supply of recruits to the fighting forces you have been mightily aiding the war effort; in your A.R.P. preparations and in the activities of your Civic Guards; in your splendid contributions to War Funds; in Red Cross and St. John Ambulance work. And I would like to mention the work of the Punjab Police who, supported by your good sense and the firm and consistent policy of the Ministry, have contributed so much to the peaceful record

of the Punjab during the recent disturbances and have done so much to maintain security in the villages from which the young men have gone forth to war.

"May I remind you, too, that many of you who have to remain at home can admirably support the men who are fighting

for you, by looking after their interests while they are away, by helping the families of men who have gone overseas, by succouring the wounded and comforting the bereaved. This you can do on your own initiative in the villages, and by co-operation with the Civil authorities, the Civil Liaison organisation and the District Soldiers



AN OFFICER EXPLAINS THE MECHANISM TO THE PUNJAB PREMIER

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1942



## DEFENCE



One of the many Indian soldiers with whom Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan, the Punjab Premier, talked when he visited the Middle East theatre of war

Boards, whose efforts can only bear fruit if they are freely given the help and goodwill of the people.

### Punjab's Leaders

"Among the advantages of a soldier's training I give a high place to a certain steadiness of outlook and sound commonsense, which no good soldier lacks. Throughout the ages these sterling yeoman qualities, ungrained as they are in the people of this Province, have caused the Punjab to play a solid, an exemplary and a distinguished part in the history of India's political and constitutional progress. The Punjab is fortunate in its leaders. You have a Governor, Sir Bertrand Glancy, of ripe experience and ready sympathy: you have a Prime Minister (a great Prime Minister, if I may say so, and a man of your own Division) possessed of wise counsel and keen imagination; and you have Ministers endowed with great industry and sound political sense. In this Division you are particularly fortunate for, as I have already mentioned, from Attock comes Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan, under whose guidance and that of Sir Mohd. Nawaz Khan the district has done splendidly. In Rawalpindi Captain Tikka Khan and many others have contributed to the wonderful recruiting record. Jhelum is proud of the military prowess of Colonel Sir Sher Mohd. Khan, now commanding a battalion; Gujrat looks for guidance in the war effort and in many other things to Nawab Sir Fazal Ali; while in Shahpur there is that famous old soldier General Sir Umar Hayat Khan whose son, Malik Khizar Hayat Khan, is doing such admirable work as a Minister of the Punjab Government. The Division has been fortunate too in its Commissioner, Mr. Marsden, who has held that important post since before the war began. With unflagging energy and with the full support of an able

team of Deputy Commissioners and many other officials in all the departments, he has been stimulating the war effort in every district. They all deserve great credit for what has been achieved and it is most gratifying to hear the work of your officials so highly praised everywhere.

### Promised Heritage

"Under the leadership of men like these the qualities which I have mentioned, the gift of keeping both feet on the ground and the eyes fixed on realities, have enabled the Punjab today to maintain peace and order, and to continue steadily with its great war effort, while in other parts of India ill and misguided counsels have led so many to the bitter and poisonous waters of civil commotion. By their steadfastness and commonsense Punjabis, and those of the Rawalpindi Division as much as any,

are helping to bring near the day of victory for the United Nations, and for all India the day on which she shall enter into her promised heritage.

### Mortal Struggle

"The land of the Five Rivers breeds a race of mighty wrestlers, who know what courage and endurance means. We are now grappled in a mortal struggle with a powerful adversary, skilled in the use of many a trick and foul throw. We have wrestled all through the night, and once or twice we have been nearly thrown. But we have our enemy firmly now and as the day dawns his breath begins to come short and fast. Let us hold on grimly and watch for our opportunity. All our training, our stubbornness, our confidence and enthusiasm will have its reward. Soon now we shall throw him, and it will be a mighty fall. He will never rise again and we shall stand forth at last victors, and free men in a free world."

### PUNJAB GOVERNOR'S REPLY TO VICEROY'S MESSAGE

His Excellency the Viceroy has received the following telegram in reply to the message he sent to His Excellency the Governor of the Punjab on the conclusion of his recent visit to the Province:—

Deeply grateful for Your Excellency's message about the Rawalpindi visit. The Premier and Ministers have asked me to express to Your Excellency our sincere gratitude for the honour you have done to the Rawalpindi Division and the Punjab in general. The *Durbar* is acclaimed by all alike as an outstanding event in the War history of the Province. It will greatly encourage us to carry on and increase our War effort until victory is won.

### "TREK PARTIES" FIND IT EASY

"Trek parties"—small groups of soldiers who leave camp without supplies and march across country for many days—find that living in this fashion is easy enough in Southern India.

Such was the unanimous report of parties from a British unit. They had money to buy their needs from villages, but this would not always have been so simple but for the help of the inhabitants—which was unflinching.

### VICEROY'S MESSAGE TO SIR AUBREY METCALFE

Here are the telegrams exchanged between His Excellency the Viceroy and the Hon'ble Sir Aubrey Metcalfe, Agent to the Governor-General, Resident and Chief Commissioner in Baluchistan:—

From His Excellency the Viceroy:

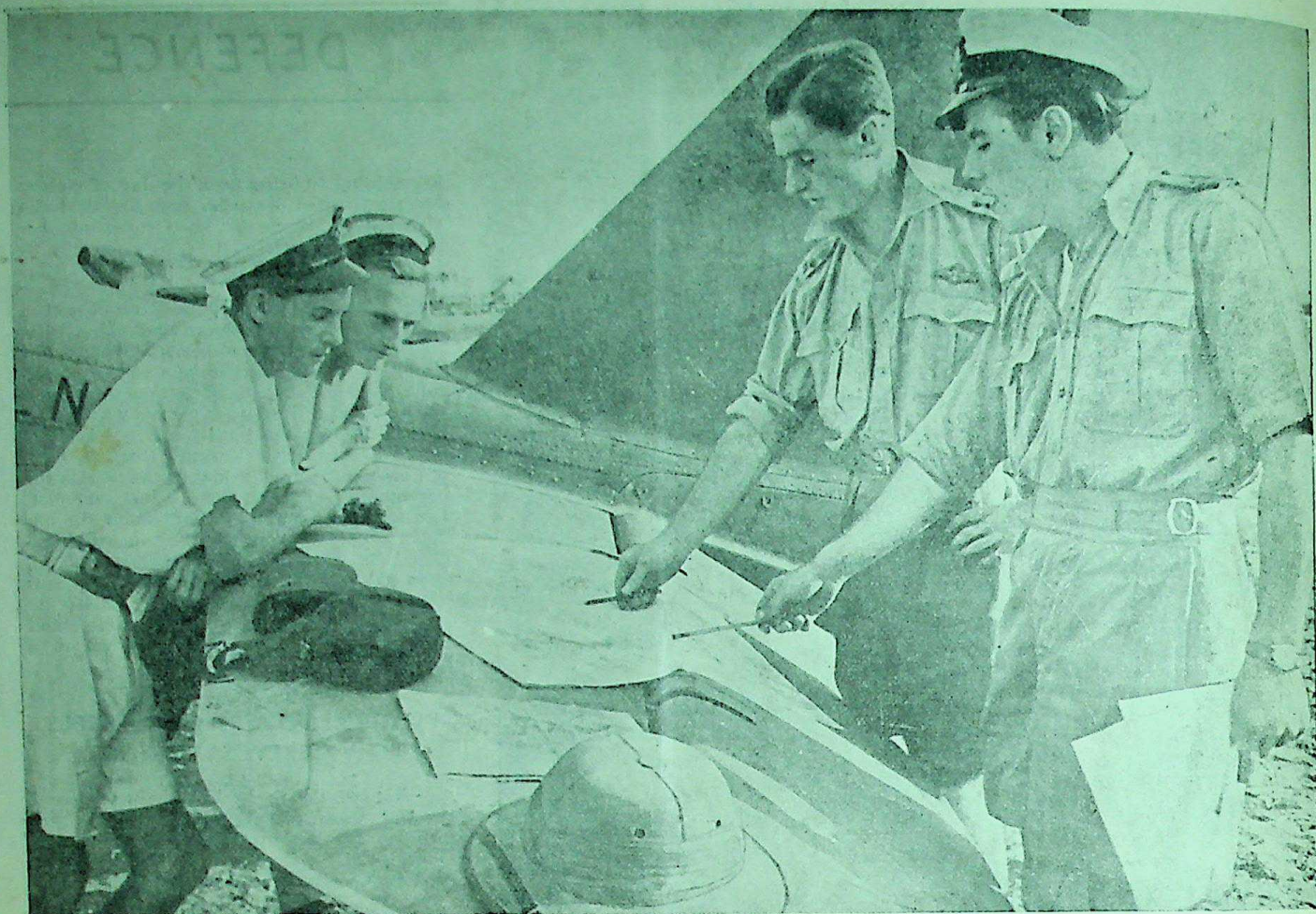
I greatly enjoyed my visit to Baluchistan and am delighted before leaving India to have been able to see for myself its enthusiastic and generous support for the war effort, and to find everyone in such good heart. My warmest thanks to Lady Metcalfe and yourself for all your hospitality and

kindness, and my best good wishes to you and to Baluchistan.

From the Hon'ble Sir Aubrey Metcalfe:

Your Excellency's telegram has given great pleasure both to us and to the many persons in Baluchistan who came in personal contact with you during your recent visit. All in Baluchistan wish that they could do more to help in the present crisis, but if Your Excellency's heavy burden has been in any measure lightened by what you have seen in Baluchistan we feel that we have contributed something of value to the common cause.





PILOT RECEIVES DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE TAKING OFF TO POUND TARGETS IN ENEMY TERRITORY

## EAST INDIA SQUADRON'S EXPLOITS IN WESTERN DESERT

One of the East India fighter squadrons, fighting in the present campaign in the Western Desert was once the top scoring squadron of the Royal Air Force. In its first nine weeks of desert fighting, the squadron shot down 31 enemy aircraft.

Formed in the last war by an officer who is now Air Vice-Marshal Coningham, Air Officer Commanding the Western Desert force, of which it is now a part, the squadron was disbanded during the years between the two wars.

It was re-formed as a Blenheim night fighter squadron by Squadron Leader Roger Bushell on October 9, 1939. In December, 1940, it was adopted by the East India Association and became officially the East India Squadron, taking as its motto: "Aut pugnare aut mori"—"Fight or die."

### Top Scoring Squadron

In March, 1940, the squadron was re-equipped with Spitfires and in its first day's fighting in this war, the squadron shot down 10 enemy aircraft with seven probables. It was given the honour of escorting the Prime Minister, Mr. Winston Churchill, to and from France during the negotiations which preceded the collapse of France.

In the Battle of Britain, the squadron became the top scoring squadron of the

R.A.F. with a total of 193 enemy aircraft confirmed as destroyed. Some of the most famous fighter pilots of the war have been members of the squadron including Wing Commander Tuck, D.S.O., D.F.C. and two Bars, Wing Commander Rankin, D.S.O. and Bar, D.F.C. and Bar, Wing Commander Kingcombe, D.S.O., D.F.C. and Bar, Wing Commander Kent, D.F.C. and Bar and Flight Lieutenant Kingaby, D.F.M. and two Bars, the only sergeant in the R.A.F. to have two Bars to his D.F.M. when he was commissioned.

Early this year, the squadron was posted to the Middle East Command under the command of Squadron Leader Wedgwood, D.F.C.

During the first nine weeks of fighting in the Western Desert, pilots of the squadron destroyed 30 enemy aircraft. Squadron Leader Wedgwood, D.F.C., the Squadron Commander, is the present top scorer of his squadron with 12 confirmed victories. The Canadian Pilot Officer, named Chisholm from near Halifax, Nova-Scotia, comes second with six enemy aircraft destroyed. Each Flight Commander in the squadron has four successes to his credit in the desert.

During the course of this war the squadron personnel have gained fourteen D.F.C.'s, six Bars to the D.F.C., two D.F.M.'s and two Bars to the D.F.M.

### "MAGNIFICENT WORK" OF MADRAS SQUADRON

His Highness the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, after a visit to the Madras Squadron of the R.A.F. stationed somewhere in England, sent the following message to the Governor of Madras:—

"I have recently visited the Madras Squadron in England. They have done and are continuing to do magnificent work. I promised I would convey their greetings through you to the Province whose name they are proud to bear."

In reply His Excellency the Governor of Madras said:—

"Please convey to the Madras Squadron the grateful thanks of the people of Madras for their greetings which we warmly reciprocate. We follow with pride their brilliant exploits. We also much appreciate Your Highness's early visit to the Squadron."

### BAHRAIN PEOPLE THANKED

A message thanking the people of Bahrain for their gift of a fighter plane to the R.A.F., sent by the Minister of Aircraft Production, London, reads:

"I send my warmest thanks for the gift of a fourth Fighter Aircraft to be named 'Persian Gulf.' The generosity of the communities in your area has brought new strength to the Royal Air Force and encouragement to the workers in our aircraft factories."

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1942



# BURMA SQUADRON'S VICTORIES ON THE WESTERN FRONT

The pilots of the Burma Squadron—the first squadron to meet and defeat Italian aircraft on the western front—recently added to their long list of victories.

On successive days a 22-year-old London pilot officer damaged one Ju-88 and destroyed another.

Flying with a flying officer companion on the first day, he saw two Ju-88s only 500 feet up. Each fighter took a raider. The pilot officer silenced the rear gunner of his quarry with a short burst of cannon fire. Shells from the flying officer's guns tore pieces off the other Junkers. Both raiders made off into the clouds, severely damaged.

The following day the pilot officer with a flight sergeant as companion spotted a Ju-88 off the south coast of England. He closed to 200 yards and saw his cannon shells tear into the raider's fuselage and wings. In a few seconds the bomber dived into the sea, a mass of smoke.

Formed during the immediate pre-war expansion, the R.A.F. Burma Squadron was led in the Battle of Britain by Squadron Leader (now Wing Commander) R. Stanford Tuck, D.S.O., D.F.C., one of the Fighter Command's most famous pilots, now a prisoner of war. On November 11, 1940, the Squadron had its famous encounter

with Italian fighter-bombers off Harwich. The Italians were attempting to attack shipping, when the Burma pilots tore in and shot down two Fiat bombers and five fighters. The Squadron has now destroyed nearly 50 enemy aircraft.

## ELEPHANT HELPS R. A. F.

Royal Air Force personnel are still salvaging Japanese aircraft shot down by our fighters during the enemy raids on Ceylon last April.

Many of these damaged aeroplanes crashed deep in the jungle where no roads or tracks were available to take the cranes or the "Queen Marys"—the term used for the huge Royal Air Force articulated vehicles—to the scene of salvage operations.

In one particular case, an enemy aircraft buried itself ten feet in swampy jungle ground. Royal Air Force salvage units had to sink a deep shaft in order to dig below the engine of the aircraft, before they could prop it up ready for the more difficult task of raising it to the surface.

A crane could not be employed; the jungle had to provide its own "mechanical device" for the job—an elephant. An

S.O.S. sent out among the native population was readily and enthusiastically answered—two elephants arrived with their keepers.

Huge chains were affixed to the engine and then hitched round Jumbo's neck. Slowly but surely the elephant dragged the engine from the sucking mud to the surface. In this case elephant-power had triumphed over "horse-power."

An enemy engine had been salvaged by Jumbo, an engine which, when examined by experts, may provide the Royal Air Force with important data on the construction of Japanese aircraft.

## PILOTS OF PUNJAB SQUADRON DESTROY A JUNKERS

Two pilots of one of the Punjab squadrons in the Fighter Command ended the career of a Junkers-88 which approached the English east coast flying low over the water.

A Canadian got in the first burst; as the enemy took violent evasive action, he closed to 80 yards, firing his guns, but broke away for his companion, an English flight lieutenant, to attack. The Englishman's fire blew pieces off the bomber.

The Canadian then made two attacks, and the enemy disappeared in a small patch of cloud. Both pilots followed, hoping to catch the enemy as he came out, but all they saw was a large patch of oil on the water.

The bomber had gone straight in.



UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON AIR TRAINING, WHICH MET IN OTTAWA, WAS ATTENDED BY DELEGATES FROM ALLIED COUNTRIES

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1942





VIGOROUS EXERCISES AND CONSTANT HARD TRAINING HELP TO TOUGHEN UP INDIAN TROOPS

## DATTA OFFICERS TRAINING SCHOOL

**H**ere are further details of the recently announced revised scheme for the training of cadets for commissions in the Indian Army.

To relieve the strain on the existing Officer Training School accommodation at Bangalore, Mhow and Dehra Dun, two new schools, exclusively for the preliminary course, are being opened, one replacing the "Pre-cadet" Army Wing of the Initial Training Centre, Lahore, and the other being instituted in part of the Forman Christian College, Lahore.

Should the number of cadets exceed the accommodation available at Lahore the O.T.S.'s at Dehra Dun and Mhow will receive the excess number and will pass them through both the preliminary and the main courses of training.

The "Datta Officers Training School," which has been opened at the Forman Christian College, is named after the late Dr. S. K. Datta, who as Principal was largely responsible for the idea of forming such a school within the precincts of the Forman Christian College.

In organisation, administration and instruction in military subjects the new schools will be precisely the same as Officer Training Schools already in existence, but in addition there will be instruction in World Affairs, Indian History, World Geography, English and similar subjects, calculated to broaden the minds of the cadets. At the Datta School lectures in these subjects will be given by the staff of Indian and American professors of the



INDIAN SOLDIERS LEARN THE TECHNIQUE OF BEACH LANDINGS AT A TRAINING CENTRE IN INDIA

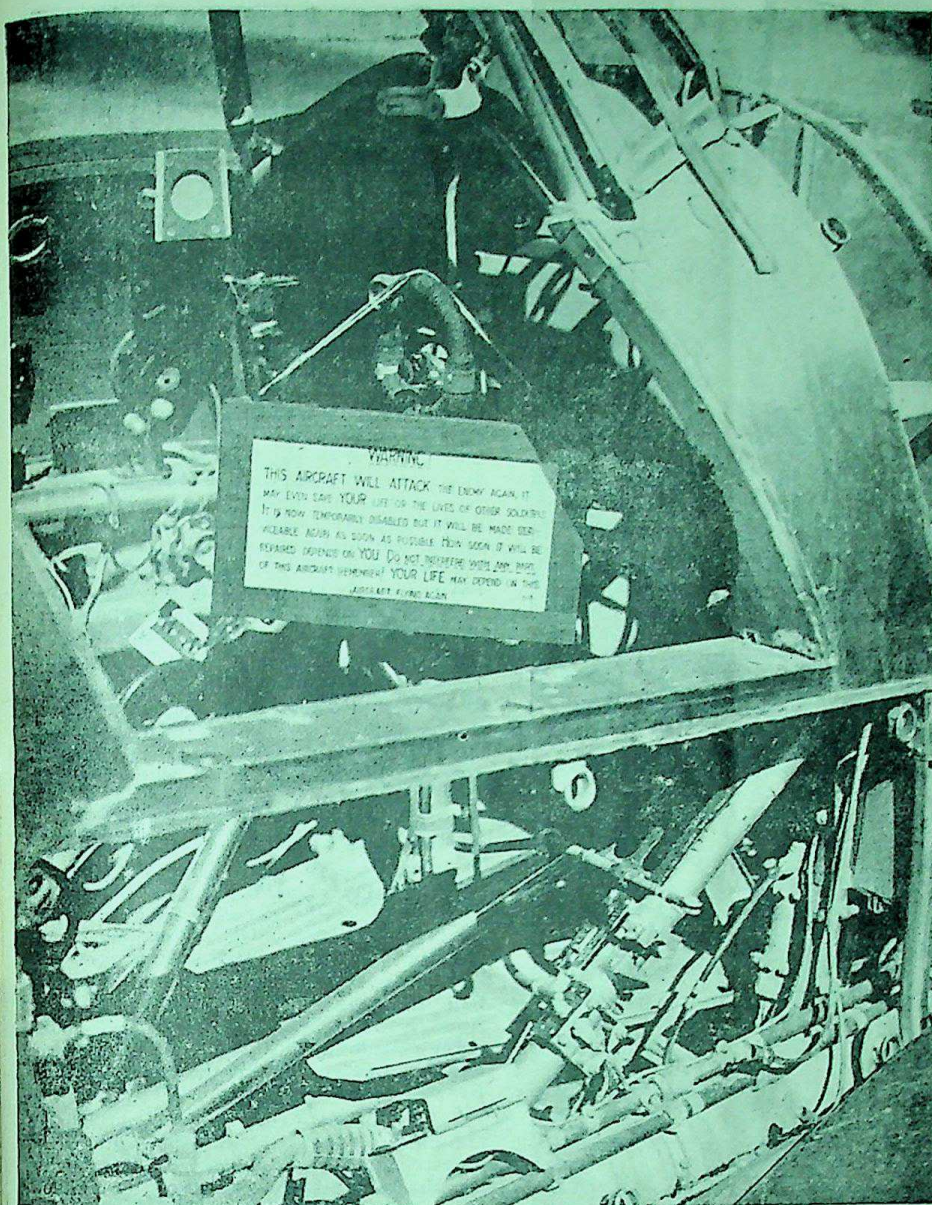
Forman Christian College, who will also encourage group discussions.

The Datta O.T.S., which has a complement of 200 Officer cadets, is commanded by a Lieutenant-Colonel of the Indian Army with a staff of regular Officers, assisted by specialist Indian Non-Commissioned Officers, who teach military

subjects. Part of the fine College buildings, with modern sanitation, has been placed at the disposal of the Officers Training School, and the cadets have joint use of the College playing fields with the other College students.

It is a unique example of co-operation in war effort between Britain, India and America.





R. A. F. Repair and Salvage Unit hangs up this type of notice on disabled or damaged aircraft, warning people against meddling with any part of the plane

## ECONOMY DRIVE IN INDIAN ARMY

**F**ifty per cent of all material produced was wasted, according to a statement issued by Britain's Ministry of Supply at the end of the last war. Today the authorities in India, as elsewhere, are running a ceaseless campaign to ensure that, in this war, all new material is used to the best advantage and that old material is recovered for use in the production of new articles.

From that lesson of 1914-1918 have been learned the ways of whittling down wastage to a minimum; these are now being put into practice.

There is, of course, unavoidable waste, fair wear and tear, but the waste which the authorities are out to reduce is that caused through neglect, misuse, and bad handling.

In war time all articles must receive special care and attention; they must be repaired, used again and, if necessary, rebuilt for further service. Every individual, be he mechanic or operator, fitter or driver,

factory-hand or fighter pilot, must see that the war machine he controls is scrupulously watched, so that its precision is not impaired through neglect.

India, until quite recently, has not been faced with the necessity for economy to the same extent as the British Isles. But the losses in the Far East have altered the situation in many respects, particularly in regard to petrol, rubber and tin.

### Saving In Petrol

The Defence Services in the United Kingdom have already saved over 18,000,000 gallons of petrol a year, firstly by having a Service Motor Transport "Rest day" once a week, and secondly by reducing the speeds of all services motor vehicles not actually employed on operational duties.

It is estimated that with this economy in practice among all ranks, the saving of petrol will rise to seventy million gallons a year. This is a clear indication of how vital and valuable such economy plans can

be, particularly in view of the additional saving of shipping space.

Wear of tyres is another problem which is being tackled. In Britain, by the system of rest days for vehicles already mentioned, by a further emergency ban on the use of one-third of the transport in each unit on the remaining days of the week, and by strict attention to tyre pressures—soft tyres mean punctures and fast deterioration—a marked reduction in the wear of tyres has already been produced. Also, through this stricter vigilance, there has been a tremendous drop in accident figures—a most important improvement.

In India, a form of work ticket to check use of transport, together with concise summaries of monthly petrol consumption, which on comparison with figures from similar vehicles can produce the ideal average consumption, will all make for the complete economy necessary in this part of India's war effort.

Tyres can be retreaded, but must be returned to the makers before they become too worn. It requires less raw rubber to retread a tyre than to make a new one.

The problem of tin is receiving close attention. Those who use this metal are being advised to study ways and means of using less, or if at all possible, to find some substitute.

Care and attention—these are the watch-words.

## MILITARY CROSS FOR INDIAN ARMY OBSERVER

An immediate award of the Military Cross for gallantry in the Western Desert has been made by the Commander-in-Chief, Middle East, to Lieut. (T/Capt.) Moti Lal Katju, Indian Army Public Relations Official Observer.

Capt. Katju, who was formerly on the staff of the *Pioneer*, Lucknow, received an Emergency Commission and joined the staff of the Public Relations Directorate at G.H.Q., India, in May 1941. In July 1941, he was posted overseas as an Observer with the Indian formations serving in the Middle East Command.

Since that time he has been almost continuously in the Desert with Indian units, from the summer of 1941, through General Auchinleck's offensive which carried the 4th Indian Division to Benghazi, in the subsequent withdrawal to Gazala, and throughout General Rommel's drive through to El Alamein.

## VILLAGER RISKS LIFE FOR SOLDIER

An Indian soldier, in camp one night near a village, stumbled over the edge of an unfenced well.

At once a villager plunged to the rescue. The soldier was brought out, but in spite of artificial respiration he died.

The story ended with the brave villager being called into camp and rewarded by the Commanding Officer.

The unit to which the drowned soldier belonged was in the midst of a 200-mile march to a new location.

## SIR PRATAP SINGH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

A Sir Pratap Singh Memorial Scholarship at the Prince of Wales's Royal Indian Military College, Dehra Dun, has been awarded to No. 506 Cadet Faqir Mohd., son of Risaldar Major Ajun Khan, I.D.S.M.



## DEFENCE

not less than Rs. 590 if he is married. Such officers are, in certain circumstances, eligible for separation and messing allowances.

There is no distinction in pay based on service in a particular branch. That is to say, Engineer Officers and officers of all other branches have been brought into line.

The status of Warrant Officers of all branches has been established as equivalent to that of Warrant Officers in the Royal Navy, and their pay has been substantially increased. For instance, a Warrant Officer on appointment, drawing Rs. 130 a month, before October 1, now receives a minimum of Rs. 300, and corresponding increases go with seniority in service. Important benefits have also been conferred in regard to housing, marriage, messing and separation allowances.

The revised regulations apply to all officers, both commissioned and warrant, Regular and Reserve, in their respective scales. All officers have the right to elect to remain on the old rates of pay if they so desire.

### AHMED AMIN'S FORTY YEARS IN R. I. N.

A proud, sturdy little figure stood on the deck of one of H.M.I. ships recently, surrounded by shipmates congratulating him. He was Chief Petty Officer Ahmed Amin, who has been awarded a Meritorious Service Medal for long and faithful service and devotion to duty in the Royal Indian Navy.

In 1902 he joined the Royal Indian Marine as a "half-boy" in a ship employed in carrying troops. He served all through the last war in various parts of the Middle East, including the Red Sea. In the Suez Canal, in particular, he experienced the strain and excitement of warfare; but of his experiences under shell-fire he seems little inclined to speak, shrugging his shoulders imperturbably as if to imply that it was "all in the day's work."

In 1915 he became an Electrical Artificer, thus working in the department of shipboard activity that had always interested him most, and for the last 27 years this has been his job.

The total sea-time Chief Petty Officer Ahmed Amin has put in is 40 years. He is now serving in one of H.M.I. ships that has done notably valuable work in the present war.

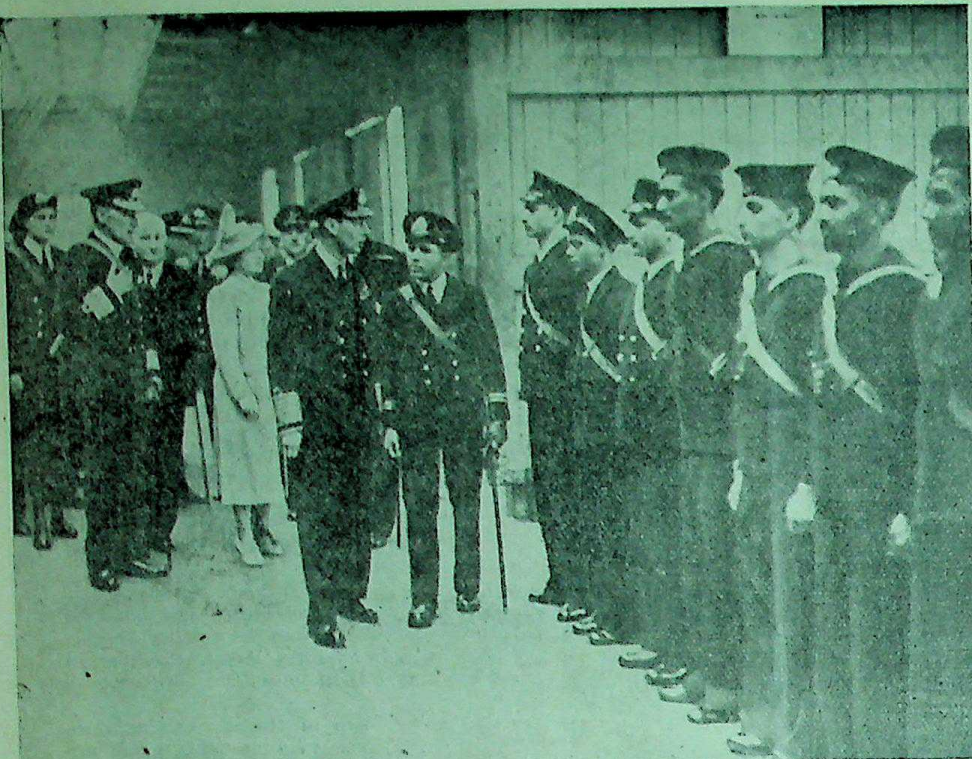
During enemy dive-bombing and machine-gun attacks at Rangoon he wired demolition charges that later destroyed equipment of use to the oncoming Japanese. He was aboard when his ship fired on parties of enemy troops and captured a number of them, including an officer, together with a quantity of ammunition.

#### Seaman Of The Old School

Chief Petty Officer Ahmed Amin is a seaman of the old school and his whole life's interest has been the Navy. His weather-beaten, bearded face broke into a smile when he was asked how he had enjoyed that life. "I wish I were younger," he said. "Then I could serve another 40 years."

That is the spirit of the men in India's Navy who are keeping the sea lanes clear and protecting the shores of their Motherland.

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1942



H. M. THE KING-EMPEROR INSPECTS R.I.N. PERSONNEL IN A TOWN IN BRITAIN



College Professors and school teachers from Sind worked machine-guns when they had a trip on board one of the Royal Indian Navy's latest ships

## INCREASED PAY AND ALLOWANCES FOR R.I.N. OFFICERS

The recent changes in regulations governing their pay and allowances confer considerable benefits on Commissioned and Warrant Officers of the Royal Indian Navy. Ratings in all branches have already received a substantial increase of pay under the scales that came into force earlier in the year.

The main benefits accruing to all Commissioned Officers may be enumerated under three headings.

Officers will be housed by Government on payment of rent amounting to 5 or 10 per cent of their pay according to whether they are single or married.

Provision is made for an allowance on the lines of overseas pay to be drawn by

all officers serving outside their country of domicile.

Under the old regulations, officers serving ashore drew, in addition to their pay, a shore allowance not received by officers afloat. This distinction has now been abolished, and officers under the new scales of pay (enforced from October 1) have been assured of an income that would not fluctuate according to whether they were serving ashore or afloat.

For all officers serving afloat this means a net increase of pay. A Sub-Lieutenant, for instance, now draws not less than Rs. 455 if he is single and not less than Rs. 515 if he is married. The increase in the pay of a Lieutenant means that he draws not less than Rs. 530 if he is single and



# VICE-ADMIRAL FITZHERBERT ON WHAT TRAFALGAR TEACHES US

"At the outbreak of war the Royal Indian Navy, efficient though it was, was not large. But it has grown, and is still growing at a remarkable pace. We can all be proud of the part it has played in widely separated theatres of war," said Vice-Admiral Sir Herbert Fitzherbert, Flag Officer Commanding Royal Indian Navy, in a broadcast from the Delhi station of All India Radio on October 21.

Here is the full text of the broadcast :

Today in many parts of the British Commonwealth men's thoughts have turned to Nelson's great victory at Trafalgar 137 years ago. I should like listeners to consider for a few minutes why, in the midst of a world-wide war, an event so remote from our day should be publicly remembered. It is not only because of Lord Nelson's outstanding qualities as a naval strategist and leader of men. It is not only because at Trafalgar he won a complete and glorious victory. But it is, I think, important and heartening that we should recall the enormous consequences of the battle and the lesson they have for our own times. The crushing of his fleet did not immediately interrupt Napoleon's career of conquest. On the contrary, the armies he had massed against England marched to extend his dominions in Eastern Europe. But his career after 1805 is that of a man on whom the shadow of defeat had already fallen. Nelson's victory had given Britain supremacy at sea: and that supremacy forced Napoleon into policies that antagonized Europe and finally brought about his downfall. Waterloo was the natural consequence of Trafalgar.

## United Nations' Naval Strength

For over three years we have been fighting a tyranny worse than Napoleon's. The German army has ranged widely, as his did. But acting powerfully against it has been the great Naval strength of the United Nations, working in close co-operation with the other branches of the armed forces. The enemy was halted at the English Channel: German and Italian shipping can only creep covertly about its business, in constant fear of attack: and Dunkirk, the destruction of the *Graf Spee* and *Bismarck*, and the convoying of merchantmen to gallant Malta and Russia are instances of the skill and enterprise with which the United Nations' Naval might is used. Conscious that their surface warships cannot face battle, the Germans place faith in their U-Boats. But we know that a heavy toll is being taken of these, and that our merchant ships are getting through under the Navy's protection. In the Far East the United Nations are confronted by a strong Naval Power in Japan. But Midway and the Coral Sea have already shown that she can be weakened, and it may be doubted whether she has the resources to replace constant losses. The United Nations, on the other hand, are building up their Naval strength so that it shall be overwhelming in the Far East as well as other theatres of war. They have the raw materials, the industrial equipment and the skilled labour to construct and maintain huge Navies. We can be sure that before long sea-power will be exerted even more powerfully than it is today against our enemies. "In all my plans," said Napoleon, "I have always

been thwarted by the British fleet." The magnitude of the present war makes it unlikely that, when victory is won, so categorical a statement will be true of any one Navy or indeed any one branch of the armed forces. But victory will certainly not come without the full exercise of sea-power. Therefore we can not only take pride in what our sailors have accomplished but place firm trust in the preparations that the United Nations are making for still greater efforts at sea.

## India's Contribution

To this expansion of Naval strength India, as one of the United Nations, is making her contribution. At the outbreak of war the Royal Indian Navy, efficient though it was, was not large. But it has grown, and is still growing, at a remarkable pace. We can all be proud of the part it has played in widely separated theatres of war. You know how Indian warships helped in supplying and convoying Indian and British troops fighting the Italians in East Africa. During the brief campaign following Nazi intrigues in Iran they assisted operations ashore and in the capture of Axis merchantmen. Indian warships, constructed in the United Kingdom, have been employed on escort duties in the Atlantic, gaining useful experience before proceeding to the East.

When Japan declared war, the Royal Indian Navy's responsibilities became heavier. Stirring pages were added to its history by H.M.L.S. *Jumna* and H.M.L.S. *Sutlej*. In the Burma campaign our ships evacuated thousands of Indian refugees, supported operations ashore, fought the enemy wherever he was encountered. Throughout the war the Navy has been carrying out efficiently and with zeal its routine but less spectacular duties of minesweeping, escorting merchantmen and keeping the sea lanes clear.

## New Training Establishments

Those of you who live in the large ports have before your eyes evidence of India's many-sided Naval activity. In the last month I have re-visited nearly all these ports, and in July, I inspected ships and establishments at Karachi in company with His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester. What I have seen has been eminently satisfying. New training establishments are being created, old ones have expanded. I have been aboard some of the many new ships and small craft added to the Fleet in recent months. I can assure you that they will give a good account of themselves. Take as an example our new submarine chasers. They are not large craft, but they are admirably suited to giving the death blow to any enemy submarine encountered, and, as you know, the little ships have a tremendous role to play in this war. Possession of these speedy, well-armed craft means a considerable reinforcement of the Naval defence of our shores and trade. They have been constructed in India. All round our coasts, yards are busy building for India's Navy, and not only from these but also from the United Kingdom and Australia we are getting the ships that we have long wanted.

We are not thinking only of the needs of the present and immediate future; we



Vice-Admiral Sir Herbert Fitzherbert, Flag Officer Commanding Royal Indian Navy

are constantly planning farther ahead. I have long said that India requires a cruiser squadron. Certain it is that her Navy must henceforth, in peace-time as well as during the present war, occupy a much larger place in her scheme of defence than it did up to 1939.

## Navy Offers A Fine Career

A vast coast-line and an enormous overseas trade have to be protected, and it is inconceivable that the India of the future will overlook the need for a Service strong enough to play its part in conjunction with the other portions of the British Commonwealth's Naval forces. I should like all listeners to realise that the Navy offers a fine career to the youth of the country. Its personnel has increased ten times since the war began, but there is plenty of room for more officers and men, and especially for technical personnel. India's seamen have for centuries been famed for their endurance and skill. Her Navy offers, and will increasingly offer, opportunities worthy of men with those traditions behind them.

On this day we think of the memorable signal that Nelson made at Trafalgar --that call to every man in the fleet to do his duty. Be assured that the officers and men of India's Navy will do theirs, and that they will strain their utmost to hasten the hour of victory. The war may not produce another naval victory as complete as was Trafalgar. But duty well performed by everyone in the Navy and merchant fleet will tell in the end. Seapower frustrated Napoleon. It is one of the vital factors frustrating our enemies of today.



# "CIVIL DEFENCE IS THE DEFENCE OF CITIZENS BY CITIZENS"

—Sir J. P. Srivastava

"I return with a very favourable impression of the work which has already been done. I wish to compliment the provinces on their vigorous efforts," said the Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava, Member for Civil Defence, speaking on his recent tour of Bombay, Madras, Vizagapatnam, Cuttack, Peshawar, Rawalpindi and Lahore, during which he studied the state of preparedness.

The Hon'ble Member said he proposed to visit Calcutta and Assam as well as Patna, and the United Provinces before Christmas and the remaining provinces later.

Much progress had been made in the provinces which he had visited, particularly in the vulnerable areas. Success in recruitment varied, although every province had spared no effort in appealing for the citizens' co-operation.

## "Defence Of Citizens By Citizens"

"Civil defence, in essence, is the defence of citizens by citizens," said the Hon'ble Member. "It is not defence of the civil population by the military. It is the civil officer or the peoples themselves who conduct Civil Defence: at all events, it is an organisation of civil authorities."

During his tour he had placed the matter of public contacts with the Civil Defence organisation in the forefront of his programme. He added:

"In all provinces, I feel that committees to associate non-officials with the direction of affairs in an advisory capacity are highly desirable and I am taking active steps to get them established."

Civil Defence extended much further than Air Raid Precautions. A.R.P. proper concerned itself with steps taken to deal with air raids, firstly, at the time to minimize their effect and subsequently to repair the damage done. The wider activities of Civil Defence comprised such measures as the care of persons rendered homeless, the evacuation of non-essential sections of the population from danger zones and, perhaps most important of all, the maintenance of morale of those who had to "stay put."

There were five main A.R.P. Services and to these he gave considerable attention during his tours. They were: (a) the Wardens Service (the key service), (b) the Communications (or Messenger) Service, (c) the Rescue Service, (d) the Casualty Service, and (e) the Fire-Fighting Service.

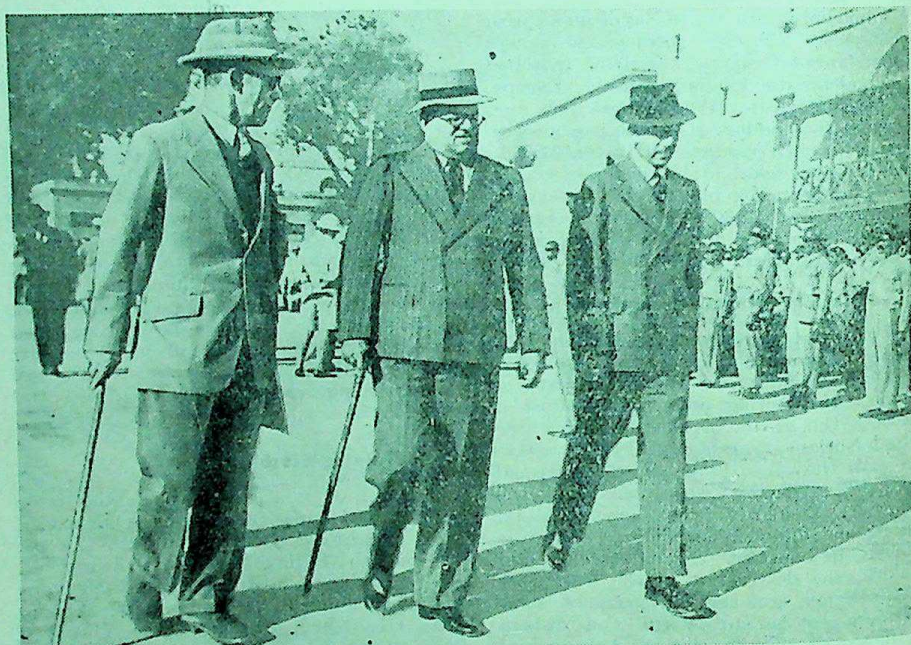
## Working Of Depot System

"Ever since the heavy raids on Rangoon last Christmas," said the Hon'ble Member, "we have urgently advocated the collection of A.R.P. personnel in depots where they should live together and receive disciplined training and have a full day's programme of work and recreation every day. Experience has proved that this is the best method of obtaining good morale and promoting *esprit de corps*."

A model depot of this type had been established in Bombay, giving the services



The Hon'ble Sir J. P. Srivastava (left) Civil Defence Member, Government of India, inspecting A.R.P. Wardens in Peshawar during his recent visit to the N.-W.F.P.



Sir J. P. Srivastava (centre) with Mr. J. G. Acheson (left) Adviser to the Governor of the Frontier Province, and Major J. L. P. Paine, Chief A.R.P. Officer, N.-W.F.P.

comfortable living accommodation, accommodation for those on call and also for vehicles and equipment. The kitchen and dining rooms were clean and cheerful.

In Madras, the Rescue Service had a depot of their own. Several stories were told of how men had clubbed together to give financial assistance to comrades in distress for one reason or another and there was no doubt that the men were animated by a real spirit of service, co-operation and *esprit de corps*.

## Women's Role In Civil Defence

The Hon'ble Member then dealt with the role of women in A.R.P. and Civil

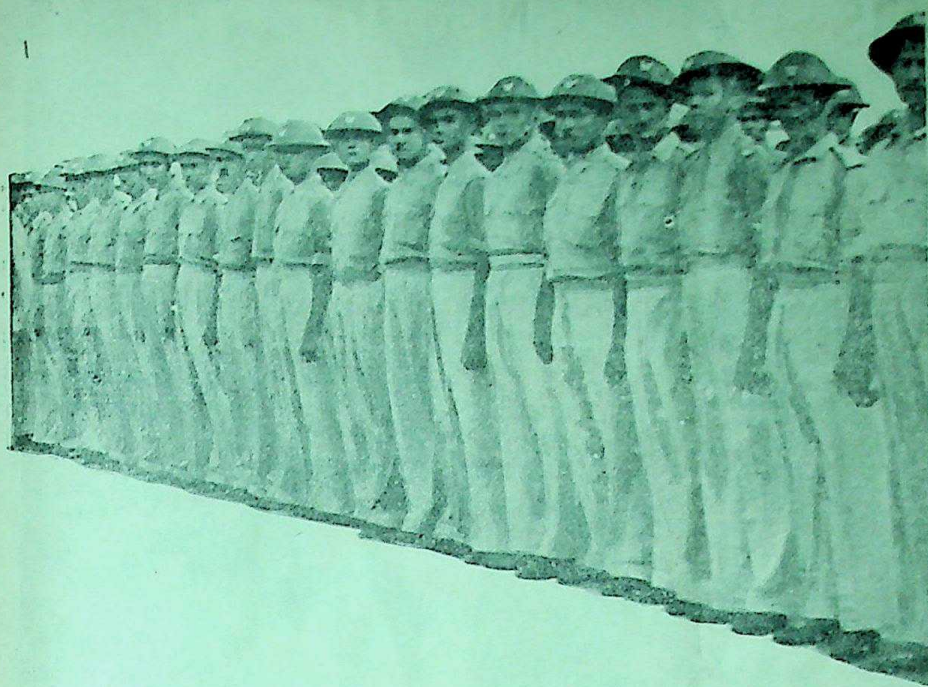
Defence. He said: "I am particularly anxious that women should play their full part." There were, of course, organisations in various provinces, but it was necessary to co-ordinate these efforts. Thus the United Provinces had established an Honorary A.R.P. Women's Service, composed of and officered entirely by women. Madras had a Women's A.R.P. Corps (which taught women self-help during air raids, particularly methods of dealing with fires), while in Assam a Chief Women's Volunteer Service Wardens had been attached to the A.R.P. Controller in vulnerable areas and a certain number of women wardens had been enlisted.

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## CIVIL DEFENCE



### "AIR RAID WARDEN IS PUBLIC'S GUIDE, PHILOSOPHER AND FRIEND"

Wing-Commander T. J. Hodsell's Broadcast

"I have told you a little about the importance of wardens. I believe there may be a future for this organisation of gallant men and women after the war. But in the meantime if they are and remain the guides, philosophers and friends of the civil population they are making their contribution to our ultimate victory in no uncertain way," said Wing-Commander T. J. Hodsell, Inspector-General of Civil Defence in Britain, discussing the importance of the air raid warden in a broadcast in the BBC's North American Service.

Wing-Commander Hodsell continued: "The original charter of the Wardens Service in Great Britain stated, among other things, that a warden should be 'the guide, philosopher, and friend of the civil population.' How right was this idea, and how well the wardens have achieved it, experience has fully shown. I am not exaggerating when I say that the Wardens Service has been one of the biggest factors in helping us to defeat the blitzkrieg against the civil population.

"To realise the value of the wardens it is important to understand the nature of total war as conceived by Germany, Italy and Japan. Total war means just what its name implies; war in which everyone is personally and physically involved. And, as has been truly said, under these conditions the civil population becomes the base of the triangle of which the Armed Forces are the apex and production the sides. Knock away the base and the whole structure comes tumbling to the ground. This base can be attacked and destroyed in a number of ways. But here we are only concerned with bombing.

#### Attempt To Destroy Morale

"We realise that part of Hitler's strategy would be an attempt to destroy the morale of the civil population by bombing attack both by day and by night; and that if this action succeeded all would

be lost. Therefore, we set about creating an organisation of the citizens themselves to help defeat this strategy.

"Bombing is an unpleasant form of entertainment for anyone; but especially for ordinary civilians who have received no military training, and who are, of course, under no form of discipline. We have got our police forces. But we realise that, with all the will in the world, they could not be in more than three places at once. And so we decided that we must have as well, a force of wardens to cover every street and village in the country who, because they were trained, would know what to do, and would by their bearing and steady action inspire the civil population with confidence. They would also provide a most valuable link between the civil population and the Civil Defence organisation, and indeed, between the Government and the civil population.

#### Accurate And Swift Reporting

"To be a leader of the population in his area is, therefore, one of the warden's most important jobs. But there is another and equally important job—the reporting of damage caused by bombing of all kinds. In fact, on accurate and swift reporting depends the working of the whole Civil Defence machine. And I would like to say something about it.

"Directly a warden hears or sees bombs falling in his sector he must listen for the explosion and watch where the bomb or bombs strike. If he hears the bomb fall with no explosion following then he will realise at once that it is a time bomb. Whatever happens he must go at once to the scene, discover what has happened: whether there are casualties, whether there are people trapped, whether fire, gas, water or electricity mains are damaged. Then he must make an immediate report—we call it an express report—giving minimum details, to the Report or Control Centre.

"The officer in charge wants to know what services are urgently required—rescue, first aid, and so on. The warden's report should give just this information so that help can be got to the scene with the least delay. If there is fire then the warden reports direct to the nearest Fire Station in order to save time.

"It is probable that there will be more than one warden available at the scene of damage, and as soon as the express report is got away one of them will make a more detailed reconnaissance with the object of sending a second and fuller report for the information of Control, while the rest will do all they can to help with casualties—rescuing trapped people, putting out fires—until the mobile services (that is, the rescue squads, fire fighters, and first aid parties) arrive.

"So the first thing is to report, the second to render immediate aid. And don't forget that if the raid is heavy and the mobile services are fully extended, the saving of life and property may depend on the warden. And so we train our wardens also in first aid and the principles of rescue work and give them some first aid equipment. We also, of course, teach them how to tackle incendiary bombs. In other words, a warden must be trained to turn his hand skilfully to any work that the immediate situation may demand.

#### Warden Must Know His Sector

"Now, while this training is important, there is a complementary part to it, no less vital, if a warden is to give his best service. That is knowledge of his sector. It must be a real and detailed knowledge—where everyone lives; where people shelter; the position of fire hydrants, telephones, gas mains, water mains, the nearest first aid post, rescue depot, and so on. It is information that may make all the difference in handling the situation in the confusion, dust, and possibly darkness where a bomb has fallen. This information takes time to collect and to know, and a really good warden will carry it in his head. We encourage all wardens' posts to have a plan, on a largish scale, of the area their post covers, prominently displayed. It is very useful and is always there for study. But that study must be made on the ground in daylight and in darkness.

"Now I expect you will understand why it is so essential for the warden to have the confidence of the public. They must help him in his task and be ready to give him any reasonable information he wants. They won't do it unless they trust him. If they go away for the weekend they should tell the warden; if they have friends to stay, the warden should know. His information about his sector must not only be thorough but it must be up-to-date and kept up-to-date every day. Lives may depend on the accuracy of the warden's knowledge.

"The wardens should also be able to help and advise the public about shelters, where is the best place in their house to take cover, and other things concerning their personal protection.

"We make the wardens take an important part in the training of the fire guards and the public in how to put out incendiary bombs and deal with small fires. Again you will see how important it is that wardens should be well trained in all their different duties. We go on this

[ CONTINUED ON PAGE 47 ]





**Mr. Rauf Orbay**, the Turkish Ambassador to Britain, saw the fifth batch of Bevin Boys at work in a British War Training centre. Here, he is talking to J. Singh

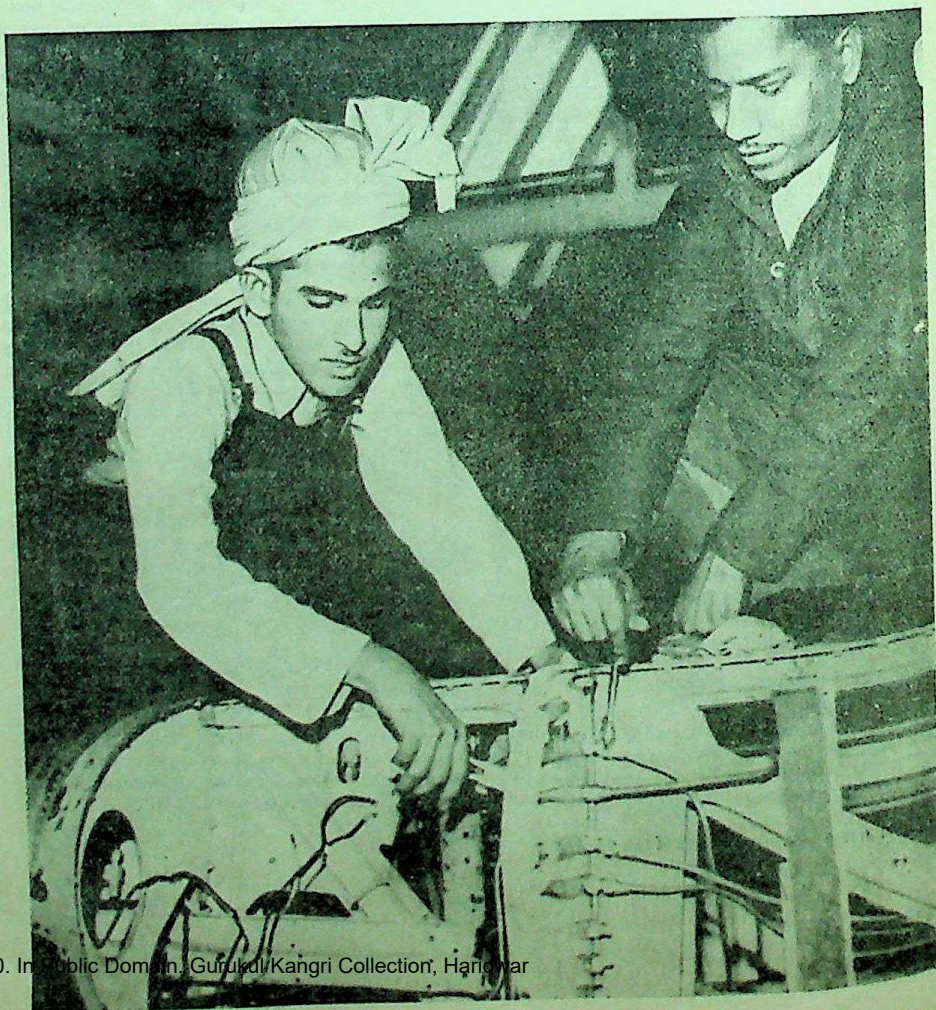
**G. MUSTAFA**, A TRAINEE FROM N.-W. F. P., WORKING ON A PLANE WING

## TURKISH AMBASSADOR VISITS BEVIN BOYS AT LETCHWORTH

**M**r. H. Rauf Orbay, the Turkish Ambassador in London, recently paid a visit to the Indian trainees at the Ascot training centre at Letchworth. He was received by Mohammad Yaqub, a trainee from Lahore, and a guard of honour consisting of Indians and English women war workers.

The Turkish Ambassador was accompanied by the First Secretary of the Turkish Embassy, Mr. H. H. Auk; Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Secretary of State for India, Mr. Robert Cary; the Private Secretary to the Ministry of Labour, Mr. F. Pickford; Head of Training Department, Ministry of Labour, Mr. Watson Smyth; Assistant Naval Attache to the Turkish Embassy, Mr. N. Vuyaki; and Mr. M. S. McCorquodale, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Information.

The Ambassador spoke to the trainees and expressed his pleasure at meeting them under working conditions. They were working, he said, to defend what is holy to any nation.







THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR WATCHES AN INDIAN TRAINEE AT WORK

## BEVIN BOYS' IMPRESSIONS OF CREWE

**“W**e take back with us not only the knowledge gained, but a common bond and a mutual and lasting understanding. To our friends in Crewe and to all who have helped us in any way, very many thanks; from the citizens of Crewe we take back good impressions—and to India you will be welcomed.” Two Bevin Boys, Max I. Rose and M. Isa, wrote this in a message to the *Crewe Chronicle* on the eve of their departure from the town after a period of training in the L. M. S. Works.

“When this goes to Press” the message continued, “we shall be away from Crewe, but having felt the urge, we thought it necessary to put into print a brief survey of our stay. The word ‘Crewe’ was to some extent familiar to us in India. It was to be found on all maps of England in our school days and in later years, when we took up careers on the railways we had met a few of Crewe’s railwaymen, had heard of the Works, and had read of Crewe’s part in the advancement of locomotive engineering. We were more familiar with

names such as the Vulcan Foundry, Metropolitan Vickers, and the North British Loco Works, as we imported, operated, and maintained their products. Little did we realise that of all the places in the British Isles connected with the locomotive industry we would find our way to Crewe.

### Two Considerations

“Our activities in England were based on two main thoughts; one was the value of closer relationship and better understanding between peoples of various countries. The part this ideal will play in post-war reforms has been generally realised, one of the main assets being better, quicker, and cheaper travel facilities. The other idea was to see as much of England as possible and study life here in all its aspects. A popular saying is that an Englishman’s typical characteristic is his reserve, but we have found this to a certain extent to be more so in Crewe than in other parts we have been to. For a while we felt strange and out of place, but having got acquainted with the folk we have today quite a wide circle of friends, and we leave

the town with sad hearts. We have been five months in Crewe. Many pleasant evenings were spent at Debating Societies, in fireside chats, and at various functions at which there were frank discussions and an exchange of views.

### Successful And Enjoyable Stay

“Of all the amenities, Queen’s Park, the Swimming Baths (which provided a pleasant pastime), the Technical Institute, and the Co-operative Society’s facilities are outstanding. The countryside round Crewe has provided an ideal resort on occasions. English countryside is certainly a thing of beauty. To see and know more, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Stoke, Hanley, Warrington, Helsby, and finally Blackpool were the places we were able to visit. Trade Unionism also interested us. By joining the A.E.U. and attending various meetings we derived a fairly good idea of its working. Taking into consideration war-time conditions—we had never been in Crewe while peace reigned—our stay of only five months was a fairly successful and enjoyable one.

“And now for thanks—first to the person in whose home we lived. It was a home in every sense of the word. We thank the staff of the L. M. S. Works for the assistance rendered and the kindness, co-operation and friendliness. We take back with us not only the knowledge gained, but a common bond and a mutual and lasting understanding. To our friends in Crewe and to all who have helped us in any way, very many thanks; from the citizens of Crewe we take back good impressions—and to India you will be welcomed.”

## INDIAN TRAINEES LEAVE GOOD IMPRESSIONS BEHIND

Good impressions are being left by the Indian trainees who come to Birmingham to study English methods of engineering under the Ministry of Labour scheme by which groups are brought over from their country and spend some months in England.

The welfare department of the Ministry of Labour and National Service in Birmingham receive appreciative notes from landladies.

### Three Examples

Here are three recent examples:—

“I would like you to know how very much I enjoyed having Mr. K. here for two months. He is such a nice and intelligent young man and was so appreciative of everything done for him. A perfect gentleman in fact. Such a young man will, I feel sure, be a great asset to the future of India. We here are missing him terribly”....West Heath, Birmingham.

“With much regret I understand Mr. D. and Mr. N. are leaving here next week....I am sorry, as during their stay at my home we have all been one happy family”....King’s Norton, Birmingham.

“The Indian trainee, Mr. R. who for a short time stayed with me....is a boy of an excellent character and well-mannered. He is an unassuming and polite boy. It gave me immense pleasure to board him.... I wish him every success and prosperity”....Northfield, Birmingham.

### POSTHUMOUS AWARD

The following posthumous award to an officer of the Indian Army for service in the Western Desert, has been approved:—

Bar to D.S.O. to Lt.-Col P. R. H. Shrine, D.S.O., 6th Rajputana Rifles.





Effigies of Hitler, the Kaliyuga Ravana (demon king in the Indian epic *Ramayana*), Goering and Goebbels were burnt side by side with that of Ravana, during this year's Dusserah celebrations in the Punjab

## MR. ANEY'S DUSSERAH MESSAGE TO INDIANS OVERSEAS

"The message I send you is a message of victory, not merely the victory of arms which is so surely approaching, but the victory of all free men in a new world of freedom, peace and goodwill," says the Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney, Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, in a Dusserah Day message to Indians Overseas.

Here is the text of the message :—

I wish to send a Dusserah message to all my countrymen now away from India. In many parts of the world, in Africa, in Europe, in America and in the Far East, Indians today will be thinking with love and with longing of their homes and families in India. To you all I send India's hearty greetings and her warmest affection.

A few special words first to those who are now enduring the hardships and anxieties of Japanese rule. In the silence following battle you may feel that you have been forgotten, that we are busy with other things and that we do not spare a thought for you. Nothing could be further from the truth. We know more than you imagine. Keen eyes are watching and we take full account of the crimes against you of which your oppressors are guilty. In Malaya they have given you no work and no pay. The little food they allow you is barely enough for your sustenance. They have looted your shops and stores and confiscated your businesses. Those of you who are still permitted to trade are

taxed in all sorts of ways, so that what little is left to you hardly suffices to buy a bag of rice. The Japanese have taken, and will continue to take, what they want for themselves and it is no concern of theirs if your single bag of rice costs you forty or fifty dollars. Some of your leaders, we know, mistakenly thought the Japanese were sincere in their talk of freedom and liberty. They have discussed these things in Bangkok and in Tokyo itself. Now they know, as you do, that the Japanese promises are as false as the paper money they have issued.

In Burma there has been the same story of looting, exploitation and false promises. What you had has been taken away and, except where it is for their own ends, the Japanese will not permit you to replace what you have lost.

### Final Liberation

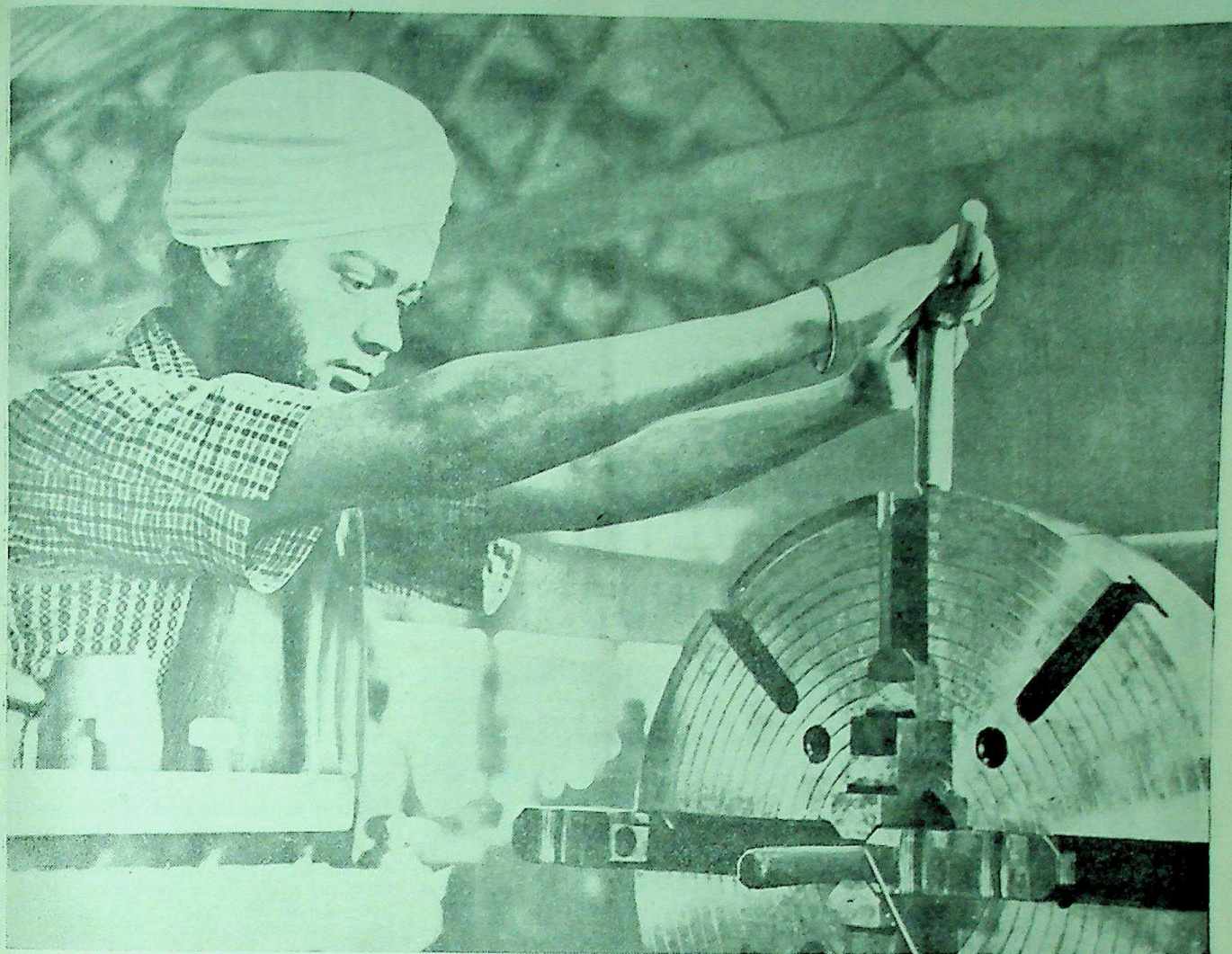
In all these countries you can now see for yourselves what the Japanese plan really is. It is to dominate you by fear, by brutality and by ruthlessness. They have stolen, they have robbed, they have murdered, they have outraged. These are things you will not forget. Rest assured we shall not forget them either. You stand together with those gallant people in so many countries, in Russia, in China, in Poland, in Norway, who have felt the might of the aggressor but whose spirit has never been daunted. The time is

coming when we from India will be with you again to bring your final liberation. Till then, resist; refuse the enemy your help, obstruct his preparations for defence, destroy his communications and impede his supplies. United we shall destroy him and drive him from his temporary spoils.

Those of you in Ceylon, in Fiji, in Mauritius, in Africa and elsewhere are all caught up in the vast struggle that is now increasing in intensity between free men and those who would enslave them. In that struggle India's place on the side of free men is clear and she yields to none in her determination to see freedom prevail. Victory may seem slow and it cannot be achieved without sacrifice; but it is certain. When it has been won India will go forward to the great future which awaits her. Throughout the world the attempt of the Axis Powers to dominate by brute force has clarified men's minds and given their true values to things that matter. In the past the democratic peoples have argued and disputed among themselves. They have allowed smaller and less worthy aims to obscure the view and lead them astray. Now among the United Nations there is a firm determination not to be so misled again. Among free men and among free nations there must be a discipline of freedom which transcends personal and individual licence. With such free communities India must and will take her rightful place. It

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Indians in Kenya are playing an increasingly important part in the Colony's war effort. Here is a young Sikh working at a lathe in the Mobile Repair Unit in East Africa

is no easy task that is set before us. Like other countries we have our own weaknesses to overcome. But now, and in the great days of victory which we can now discern ahead of us, is our finest opportunity, when men of goodwill all the world over are bending their energies to the establishment of a new charter of freedom. In that task you, our representatives in other countries, will have a great part to play. We must shed all narrow prejudices, forget all internal differences and united make India's contribution to the lasting peace in the firm belief that the aspirations of India to have her legitimate position in the comity of free nations can be fully realised on the success of the cause of democracy and freedom.

#### Message Of Victory

Today we are celebrating Vijaya Dashami, the day of victory. It was on this day that Ravan of Lanka was slain by Shri Ramchandra and the armies of the Rakshasas defeated. It was on this day that the Goddess Kali returned victorious after killing the demon Mahishasura who was a pronounced enemy of human civilisation. It was again on this day that the Pandavas emerged out of their condition *incognito* at the end of the period of their exile and routed the Kauravas in the battle of Virat. It was this auspicious day that witnessed the birth of Lord Buddha the greatest preceptor of the doctrine of mercy, peace and universal love. This is therefore the day recognised by the Hindus as the most auspicious day for a start of

every meritorious act and particularly for a campaign to conquer the forces of evil and establish the supremacy of good. Hindus, Mohammedans and Christians alike join in the festivities of the day and exchange greetings.

The message I send you is a message of victory, not merely the victory of arms which is so surely approaching, but the victory of all free men in a new world of freedom, peace and goodwill.

#### BURMA GOVERNMENT'S LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

The office of the Legal and Legislative Department of the Government of Burma has been established at Simla (Address: 'Benmore,' Simla 'E').

Among subjects with which this Department will deal are those administrative matters which were previously dealt by the High Court of Judicature at Rangoon, namely, matters connected with the High Court, judicial cadres or personnel and the staff of the High Court and courts subordinate thereto.

#### Applications

This Department will receive applications relating to pay, pensions, leave or leave salaries, security deposits, re-employment, etc. from such Government servants, and also applications for monetary assistance from such Government servants who have fallen into enemy hands or are presumed to be in enemy-occupied areas.

## WAR EFFORT BY INDIANS IN KENYA

Kenya's Indian community is playing an increasingly important part in the Colony's war effort. There has been a big surge to service recently, and of Kenya's 18,000 able-bodied Indian men between the ages of 18 and 50 years, 3,200 are already with H.M. Forces as enlisted men or enrolled civilians; 6,000 are working for such important concerns as the railway, P.W.D. and in Government offices; and the remainder are engaged in commerce or are employed by commercial firms, many of which are engaged on war work; in the whole of Kenya there are left only 900 skilled Indian artisans who are not directly employed on a war job.

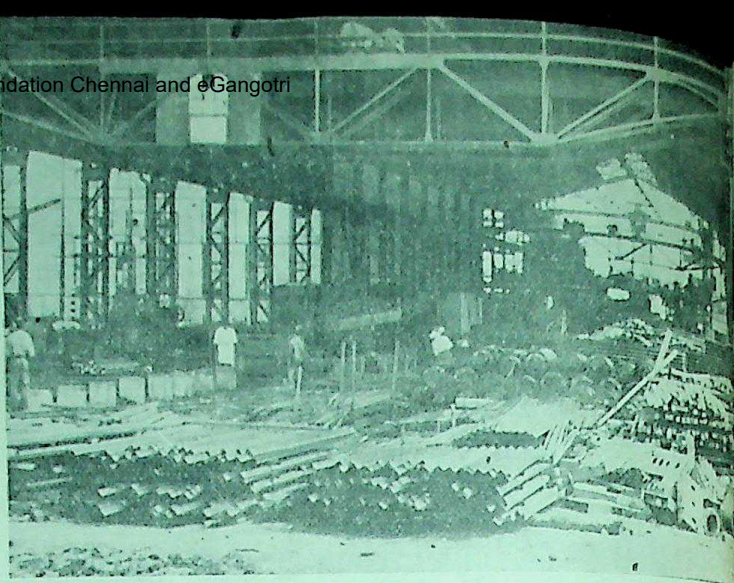
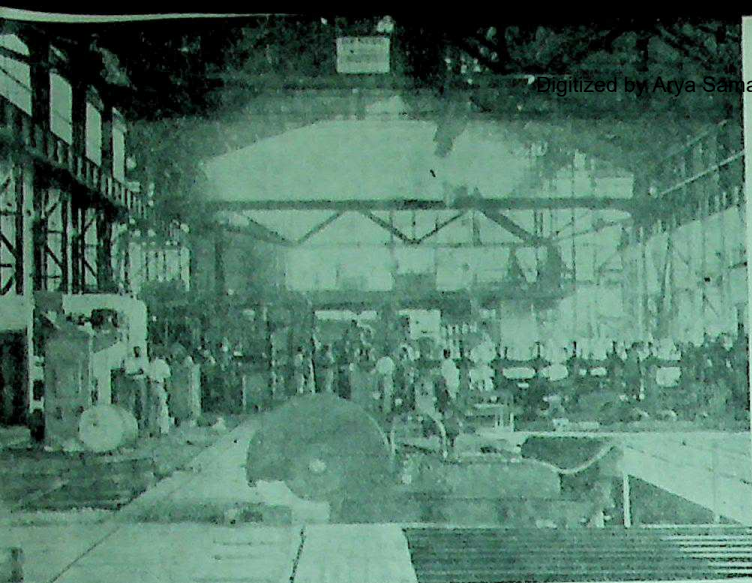
#### In Army Driving Schools

The reserved occupation clause applies to 1,100 Indian craftsmen, who are not allowed to join the Forces.

Nearly 1,500 Indians are with the East Africa Army Service Corps, Ordnance have 250, while more than 300 are with the Pay Corps.

Automobile-minded Indians are doing good work at Army driving schools as motor-engineers and fitters.





WAR HAS GIVEN A GREAT IMPETUS TO THE INDIAN IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY HERE ARE VIEWS OF HEAVY INDUSTRY PLANT

## INCREASED PRODUCTION IN INDIA'S MUNITIONS INDUSTRY

Unexorably India's munitions programme gathers increasing momentum and with the arrival of new equipment and expansion of existing capacity, new records are monthly being obtained.

Record outputs for August included some 17 new categories of production, of shells, bombs, explosives, bayonets, cartridges and various equipment, including a record output of special kinds of alloy steels.

Over the whole range of production, the striking feature of India's 1942-43 programme is the gradual line-up of industries which during the preceding three years were either in the process of expansion, reconstruction or were being born.

This is not to say that India's requirements of plant and machinery have been completely met. Problems of a world-wide war are the problems of allocation and co-ordination of industrial effort. The progress that India has registered is in the increasing uses made of her present possibilities for production aided by supplies on generous proportions of new equipment and machinery as will enable the construction and stimulation of further industries.

### High-speed Tool

The endeavours of scientists and research workers are directed towards greater and more efficient use of available and indigenous material. A new technique in the production of high-speed tool and high die steels economises ferro-alloys—the group includes ferro-tungsten, ferro-molybdenum, ferro-chrome and ferro-vanadium on the imported list. The new technique will eventually result in the saving of nearly Rs. 40 lakhs of ferro-alloys and valuable shipping space.

A new use for detoluated benzol obtained from India's toluene industry as a solvent in processing rubber replaces oil previously obtained from the oilfields. The importance of this discovery lies in the fact that every gallon of solvent oil drawn from the oilfields decreased production by two potential gallons of aviation spirit. Increasing new uses for cocoanut oil as a substitute for sperm oil in certain operations connected with munitions manufacture have also been found, displacing an average import of nearly 9,000 gallons of sperm oil.

The process of co-ordination as the war progresses, reveals interesting manifestations

of aid and effort. In the American Purchases Section of the Supply Department, the canalizing of demands on the United States has reached such a degree of co-ordination that it enables a broad picture of India's requirements to be featured in its proper perspective.

Under a contracting supply position with the consequent close scrutiny and limitation of demands, the position emerges where everything released is essential and the difference between defence and non-defence really vanishes. Thus U.S.A. has released under Lease/Lend to India articles such as wireless sets and steel baling hoops. The latter, for example, do not go into munitions, etc., but they are essential for moving the cotton crop, and the importance of these high pressure hoops for handling this crop has an obvious bearing on transportation also.

Dependent on American supply of machinery, a new saw mill factory has been laid down in South India, while at a steel mill, India's plate mill capacity is to be extended by 25 to 50 per cent at a cost of over Rs. 35 lakhs. The present mill supplies all the plate for shipbuilding and repairs, bullet-proof and other heavy armour steel. Additional demand will be met when the new plant is installed.

The progress of the steel industry in India is one of the most outstanding developments since the war.

### APPEAL FOR RETURN OF EMPTY CONTAINERS

There is a serious shortage of metal containers and of the steel from which they are made. After discussion with the principal business interests concerned, the Government of India appeal—

(i) to all suppliers of goods in metal containers to make every effort to secure the return of the containers by their customers;

(ii) to all purchasers of goods in metal containers to co-operate with the suppliers by taking every possible care of the containers and returning them to the suppliers.

Requests by suppliers for the return of containers have the full support of the Government of India, and purchasers can

render a very real service to the war effort by complying with them.

In connection specifically with 40 and 5-gallon drums used for oils and greases, Government have devised a scheme to be operated by the Oil Companies under the general supervision of Government. The general idea of the scheme is that drums must be returned before replenishments of oil can be obtained but in the case of up-country consumers, provision is made to enable replenishments to be despatched before the empty drums actually reach the suppliers.

It is emphasised that as the usual life of a container depends to a great extent on the treatment that it receives, all users are asked to take every possible care of them while in their possession and in particular to see that skids are always used when unloading drums from wagons or transport.

### INDIA NOW PRODUCING MACHINE-GUN BELTS

Thousands of yards of machine-gun belts are now being produced in India for the first time. Some of the modern high-powered guns from India's armoury fire hundreds of rounds a minute. The webbing cartridge belts that feed the guns with ammunition are a work of precision. Each strip is in the 'firing line' for just a split second and each belt carries hundreds of rounds.

When the guns begin to 'talk' there must be no hitch in the belt that feeds them. Each strip must be exactly like the last.

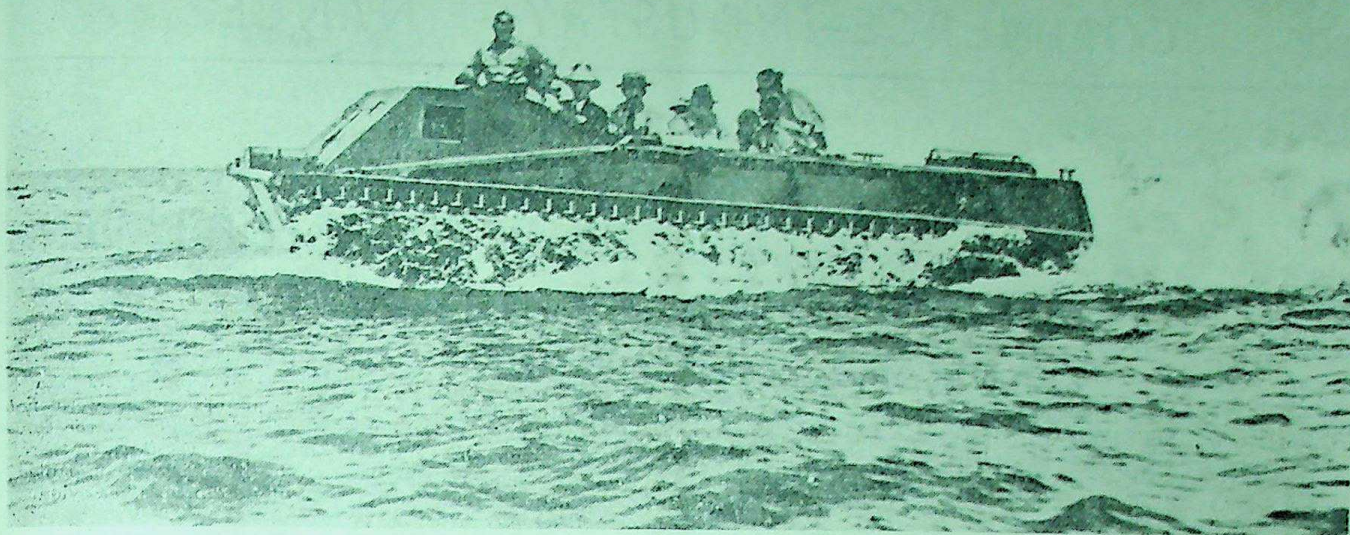
Peak production in certain factories is expected to be nearly trebled and as manufacture becomes more popular, orders are expected to be placed for the various kinds of belts for the different types of machine-guns India produces.

### RECORD OUTPUT BY ORDNANCE FACTORY

Good reports have been received on the working of new plants recently installed at an ordnance factory where it is stated cordite is now being made at a rate in excess of programme. The August output not only reached a record but exceeded the theoretical expanded capacity provided in this factory.

Composition exploding, which is described as 50 per cent more sensitive than T.N.T., has also been established and the output of acetone, a chemical which enters very largely in munitions production, has shown a big increase.





Enormous quantities of iron and steel find their way into the amphibian tank manufacturing industry. Here is a tank which runs over land or through water on a caterpillar tread

## INDIAN STEEL RE-ROLLING MILLS

The Government of India recently decided to invite all steel re-rolling mills in the country started before September 1, 1941, to enrol themselves as members of the Steel Re-Rolling Mills Association on or before November 15, 1942.

This decision was reached in order to provide equality of opportunity to mills started before September 1, 1941, to secure the efficient conversion of steel, to safeguard established mills as far as possible against a failure in the supply of scrap and to avert profitless competition.

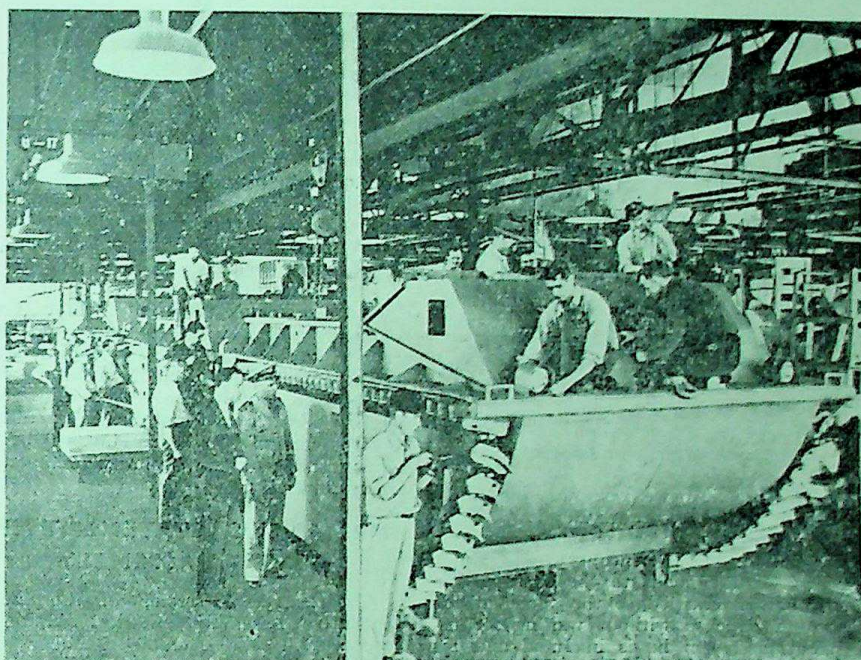
In a *Communique* issued on September 6, 1941, the Government of India expressed the view that the available scrap was scarcely enough to enable existing mills to carry on their normal business and warned all concerned that in the event of the Government of India having to take special measures to regulate the supply of scrap to re-rolling mills and other users, they would not include any re-rolling mills started on or after September 1, 1941.

### Classification Of Mills

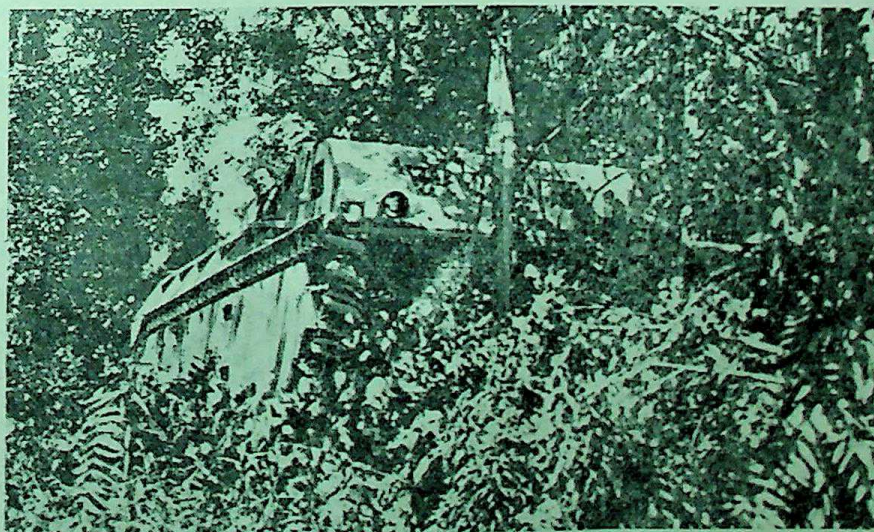
The Government of India have found it convenient to work through a single Trade Association. A committee for the classification of all mills (old as well as new) which are or may become members of the Steel Re-rolling Mills Association on or before November 15, 1942, is to be appointed shortly. This Committee will consist of two representatives of Government and a representative elected by all the member-firms of the Association and will determine the classification of the mills according to their efficiency, convenience of location and transportation facilities, into categories A, B and C.

An endeavour will be made to supply scrap to mills in category A for two-shift working and to category B for one-shift working. Mills placed in category C will receive whatever is left after the requirements of mills in categories A and B have been supplied.

The rate of charge for conversion from scrap to steel will be fixed by agreement



Men at work on an amphibian tank, which is in mass production in the United States. The tank is powered by a stock-model automobile engine



IN A GROUND TEST, THE TANK CRUSHES UNDERBRUSH AND SMASHES THROUGH TREES



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

between the Government and the Association from time to time on a sliding scale, mills in category C getting the highest rate for conversion. The rates at which steel will be supplied to Government or sold and the other conditions will also be determined by agreement. All re-rolling mills will be obliged to dispose of the whole of their products in accordance with the instructions of the Iron and Steel Controller. Government also intend in the near future to control iron and steel scrap by statutory order and to fix maximum prices for all categories of scrap.

## Transit And Storage Sheds

It will be appreciated that avoidance of congestion in transit and storage sheds must be an essential factor in the general drive towards the quick turn round and economical use of shipping. To that end most governments took powers, at an early stage in the war, to remove cargo from the ports as soon as it was landed and distribute it from up-country depots.

Hitherto shore congestion in Indian ports has been kept within bounds, largely through the strenuous efforts of port authorities and consignees most of whom have done everything in their power to remove their cargoes as soon as possible after discharge. Nonetheless delays which might cumulatively cause very serious congestion have sometimes occurred. The only remedy in such cases, as matters stand, is for the Port Authorities to auction any goods which are congesting their storage space.

This drastic power would of course only be used in the last resort and Port Authorities have, therefore, been empowered under rule 87A of the Defence of India Rules to forward the goods to the consignee or other person entitled to the goods at his risk and expense without waiting for his instructions when he is in India and his address is known to the Port Authority.

It is, however, hoped action under this rule will rarely be necessary and that merchants will continue to co-operate fully in the speedy removal of their goods.

## JOINT ANGLO-AMERICAN TECHNICAL MISSION

The Joint Anglo-American Technical Mission appointed to investigate ports and shipping conditions on the West Coast of India assembled at Karachi in the beginning of November, 1942, and left shortly afterwards for Bombay, Cochin and Colombo. The Mission then visited Delhi before returning for a second visit to Bombay.

The American party was led by Mr. Bushrod Howard and Mr. Burns, Deputy Chairman of the Calcutta Port Commissioners, was appointed the Government of India's representative. The Mission was authorised to discuss measures to achieve better co-ordination of existing facilities and relief of congestion in order to secure the maximum use of shipping and a copy of the Mission's agreed report will be submitted to the Government of India.

## EMIGRATION OF UNSKILLED INDIAN LABOURERS TO CEYLON

The Government of India have relaxed their prohibition on the emigration of unskilled labourers to Ceylon so far as it affected labourers in Ceylon prior to September 1, 1942. The effect of the ban on such labourers had been that, since its imposition three years ago, they had been prevented from paying their normal visits to India for social and domestic purposes, for fear of not being allowed to return to their employment in Ceylon. The uncertainty about employment in Ceylon, which was the reason for the ban being imposed, could not be considered to subsist in wartime, when practically all Indian labour in Ceylon was employed on work essential to the war effort.

The Government of India were, therefore, of opinion that there was no justification for continuing to place any obstacle in the way of labourers wishing to pay their normal visits to India. The prohibition will continue to operate as heretofore in regard to labour not already in Ceylon.

Estate labourers who obtain leave to visit India should get their identity certificates endorsed with the date of their arrival by the Protector of Emigrants at Mandapam or Tuticorin. Non-Estate labourers who obtain leave should obtain identity certificates from the Agent of the Government of India in Ceylon before leaving and get them similarly endorsed on arrival in India.

## MR. ANEY'S STATEMENT IN CENTRAL ASSEMBLY

At the recent session of the Indian Legislative Assembly, Dr. P. N. Banerjee asked: Will the Hon'ble Member for Indians Overseas please state:

- whether it is a fact that the Government of India have withdrawn the ban on emigration of Indian labour to Ceylon; if so, why; and
- whether it is a fact that the Ceylon Government have not yet withdrawn the anti-Indian laws in force in that country?

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney, Member for Indians Overseas, replied:

The Government of India have not removed the ban on the emigration of Indian unskilled labourers to Ceylon; they have only relaxed the ban to the extent of permitting the return to Ceylon of Indian labourers already in the island who may come to India on visits.

This was done purely in the interests of the Indian labourers in Ceylon and in order to remove the hardship which was being caused to them by the fact that they were deterred from paying their usual visits to India on holiday or for social, domestic and religious purposes, for fear that their return to Ceylon would be

prevented by the operation of the ban. The Government of Ceylon were not a party to the decision taken by the Government of India and there was, therefore, no question of its being accompanied by the repeal of any ordinances in Ceylon.

## WELFARE AND EFFICIENCY OF LABOUR IN WARTIME

A comprehensive review of almost all matters affecting the well-being and efficiency of labour in wartime was the task before the first meeting of the Standing Labour Committee set up as recommended by the recent Tripartite Labour Conference held in New Delhi. The meeting, originally arranged to take place on December 4-5, 1942, was held on November 30 and December 1, 1942, in New Delhi.

The agenda was divided into five subjects—labour legislation and terms of employment; production and factors which affect it; the earnings of labour (including dearness allowances); welfare of labour (including problems of food supplies, A.R.P. in factories and relief for War injuries); and the collection of statistics and information.

## LEATHER SUPPLIES FOR DEFENCE SERVICES

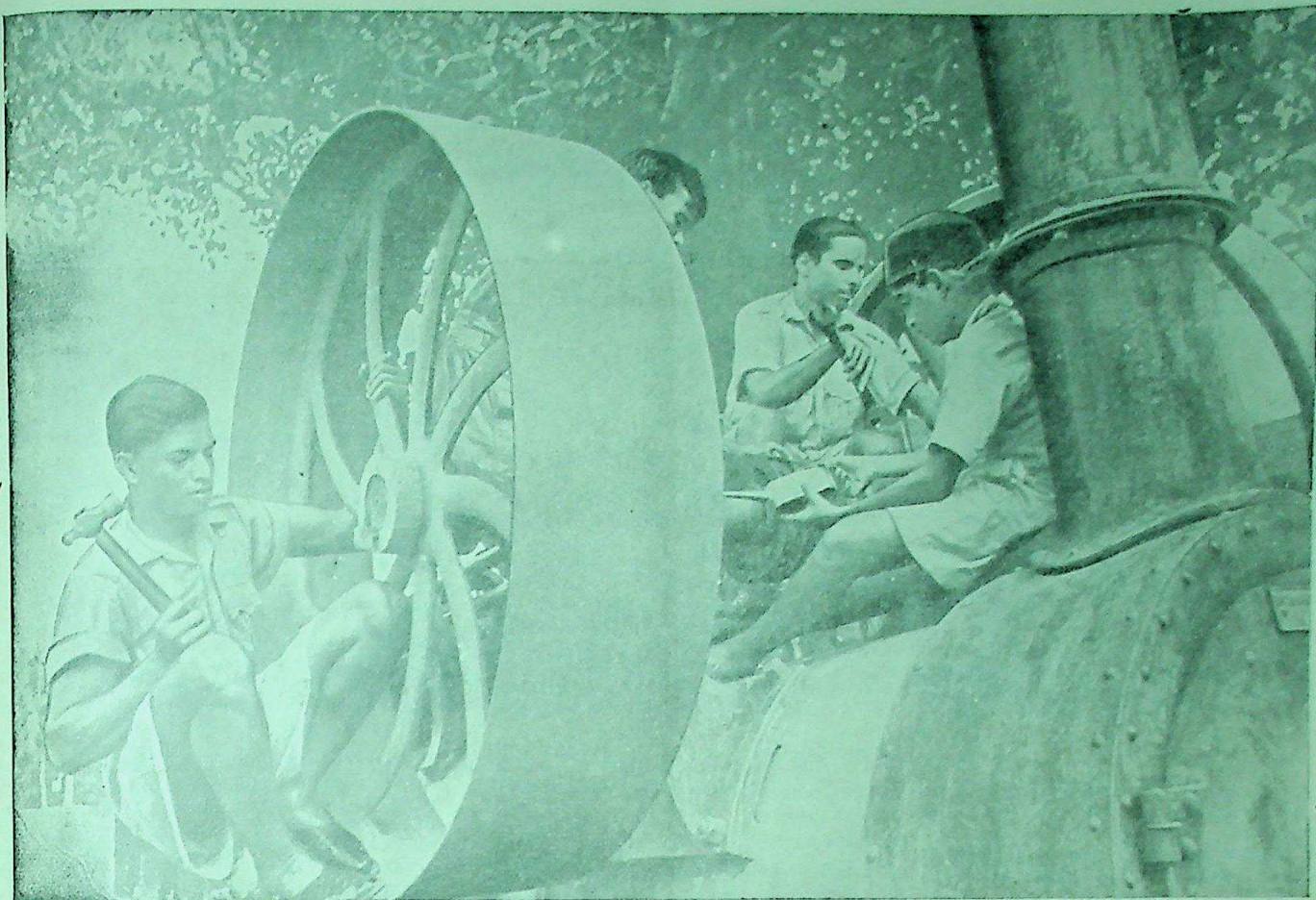
As the war progresses, the demands for leather required for supplies to the Defence Services increase. The present demands fully utilise the capacity of the tanneries in India producing leather by modern methods and processes. The standard of leather required for defence purposes necessitates the use of the best available grades of hides produced in this country and it is, therefore, essential that the capacity of modern tanneries should be utilised only on the processing of such hides. In order to assure, as far as possible, leather supplies of the standard and in the quantities required, it has been found necessary to bring under Statutory Control such tanneries as are considered to have the facilities necessary for the production of Government's requirements.

### Disposal Of Finished Leather

The Control Order has been enforced at present on 28 tanneries. Others may be brought under control in course of time if extension of the control is considered by Government to be necessary. Under the Order, the Controller of Leather and Tanning Industries is empowered *inter alia* to ensure that tanneries purchase hides of the required grades at prices not exceeding those fixed by Government, to control the methods of processing, and to give instructions regarding the disposal of the finished leather.

Powers have also been given to the Controller under the Order to inspect all records and accounts relating to the factory.





SOUTH INDIAN TECHNICAL TRAINEES ASSEMBLING A STEAM-ROLLER AT A TRAINING CENTRE IN TRAVANCORE

## NEW FACTORY FOR ALLOY STEELS

**D**espite the vicissitudes of war and the hazards of sea transport, one of India's ordnance factories recently witnessed the consummation of an important munitions project representing nothing short of a completely equipped factory for the production of alloy steels not previously manufactured in India.

The project was one of the very first which came under notice during the Chatfield visit and received still closer examination from the Roger Mission who early saw the necessity for an Indian factory for the production of special steels.

About two years ago, the ground on which the buildings now stand was occupied by a number of large open tanks. Into the soft subsoil, hundreds of piles were driven underground on which the heavy buildings which they support were later assembled. Some conception of the magnitude of the foundation work is given by the fact that concrete piles had to be driven mostly 60 to 70 feet deep. For the various constructions planned at the site over 2,000 tons of steel were used. Then began the installation of special furnaces, electrically operated elevators, cranes and ladles, and a complete new equipment of the gas producers.

### Special Uses Of Steel

There is steel and steel and in its various proportions of carbon, nickel, tungsten, molybdenum and chromium, the special uses of steel are manifold and their manufacture in the exact proportions one of great complexity. The processes make or mar the result: a flaw in the heating furnace may result in a type of steel totally unsuited for the purpose for which it is needed or a

slight increase in the percentage of carbon makes all the difference in malleability. For their manufacture equipment hitherto was inadequate.

From this new factory will issue the steel required for India's expanded outturn of field guns, anti-aircraft gun liners, anti-tank guns, as well as steel for the increased outturn of rifles and light machine-guns.

### Buildings Designed In India

A satellite factory will forge, process and anneal the guns and shells, with some of the most powerful presses in the country. Manufacture on a reduced scale has been going on for some time.

The new factory is an epitome of united effort. The whole of the buildings, together with the cranes which form part of the equipment, were designed in India and fabricated and erected by Indian workmen and staff. Some of the furnaces and electrical equipment came from Britain, tools and other imports from the United States. The exact cost of the factory cannot now be revealed, but it runs into several lakhs paid for by Britain.

## RESTRICTIONS ON MOVEMENT OF IRON AND STEEL

A notification issued in the *Gazette of India* recently cancelled clause 7(c) of the Iron and Steel (Control of Distribution) Order of last year and provided that subsequent transfers of steel between stock-holders could take place only with the authorisation of the Iron and Steel Controller.

For administrative convenience, the Iron and Steel (Control of Movement) Order, issued on September 5, 1942, has been replaced by two Orders dealing separately with movement of iron and steel by rail and movement by road or river.

The movement by Rail Order which was effective from October 1, sets out the categories of steel to which the Order applies in terms of the Railway Goods Tariffs instead of in terms of the second schedule in the Iron and Steel (Control of Distribution) Order. It provides that no transport of iron and steel can take place by rail except with the authorisation of the Iron and Steel Controller, unless the consignments are covered by military or railway material credit notes or wagon priority certificates.

The Movement by Road or River Order is substantially the same as the Control of Movement Order of September 5, and came into effect at once and applies to iron and steel consigned by road or river.

### ALUMINIUM CONTROL

A notification is under issue deleting reference to the Commerce Department of the Central Government from the Aluminium Control Order. This is being done to transfer the administration of the order from that Department to the Director General, Munitions Production, Supply Department, Calcutta, who will in future issue all certificates and permits and to whom all returns under the order will be made.

The amendment is in the nature of a consequential change following the recent amendment bringing within the scope of control all aluminium, including scrap used in manufacture, with a view to provide increasing availability of aluminium for munitions purposes.



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

## Defaced Notes

An Ordinance was issued recently whereby Bank notes issued by the Reserve Bank of India, or Government of India currency notes or one-rupee notes, which bear written upon them any words or visible representations intended to convey or capable of conveying a message of a political character, cease to be legal tender. Under clause (58) of Section 3 of the General Clauses Act, 1897, the expression "written" includes "references to printing, lithography, photography and other modes of representing or reproducing in a visible form."

The Reserve Bank of India will no longer be under an obligation to receive such notes, or to exchange them for other notes, or to issue rupee coin or other coin in exchange therefor. Nor will the Bank be bound to refund the value of any such notes.

But under the proviso to the Ordinance the Reserve Bank of India may, however, in its discretion refund as of grace the whole or part of the value of such defaced notes.

The public are accordingly cautioned against receiving such notes, acceptance of which they are at liberty to refuse now that notes so defaced have been deprived of their legal tender character.

## King George VI Rupee Coins

As it appears that there is some misapprehension in certain quarters that the King George VI rupee referred to in the recent announcement calling in standard silver rupees refers to the King George VI quaternary rupee, it is announced for public information that the King George VI coin that will be withdrawn will be the King George VI silver rupee eleven-twelfths fine, dated the year 1938. Far from withdrawing the new quaternary King George VI rupees with the security edge, they are being freely issued to the public as required and in replacement of standard silver rupees.

The announcement, which was issued by the Government of India, Finance Department, is to the effect that George V and VI standard silver rupees and half-rupees will cease to be legal tender from May 1, 1943, although they will be accepted at all Government treasuries, post offices and railway stations till October 31, 1943.

Thereafter, and until further notice, they will only be accepted at the offices of the Issue Department of the Reserve Bank of India in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

This marks the final stage in pursuance of the policy of the Government of India progressively to replace the standard silver coin by the new coin with the security edge in order to minimise the use of silver for coinage purposes and to check counterfeiting. There are ample stocks of the new coin.

## Central Accounts

The latest statement of the Central Government's monthly accounts shows that, excluding periodical adjustments and the transactions of Railways and Posts and Telegraphs, expenditure in the first five months of the current year exceeded revenue by Rs. 53½ crores, as against Rs. 23½ crores in the corresponding period of the previous

year. Revenue is better this year by Rs. 9 crores but Defence expenditure has increased by Rs. 33½ crores.

Net receipts from Railways are Rs. 5½ crores better.

There has been an increase of Rs. 48 lakhs under Permanent Debt, in the first five months.

## Government Securities

In pursuance of their general financial policy and with a view to protecting holders of Government Securities as far as may be possible from the inconvenience arising out of unnecessary fluctuations in market prices, the Government of India have, by an order under the Defence of India Rules, fixed the minimum prices of certain securities as below :—

Description of Govt. securities	Minimum price
	Rs. A. P.
3 Per cent Punjab Loan, 1955	.. 95 0 0
3 Per cent C. P. and Berar Loan, 1955	.. 95 0 0
3 Per cent Madras Loan, 1955	.. 95 0 0
3 Per cent Bombay Loan, 1955	.. 95 0 0

## Sugar Exports

For regulating sugar exports from the producing to the consuming Provinces and import quota in the latter areas, the Sugar Controller for India has divided the consuming regions into major importing, medium importing and minor importing areas. Import quota to the first category amounts to 71·4 per cent, to the second 18·8 per cent, and to the third 9·8 per cent of the total export. Bombay, Punjab, Bengal and Madras comprise the first, C. P., Rajputana, Central Indian States and Sind the second, and Assam, Delhi, N. W. F. P., Orissa, Baluchistan, Jammu and Kashmir and Hyderabad State comprise the third group of import areas.

For the period June 1 to November 30, 1942, total import quota allocated to Bombay amounted to 75,034 tons, to Punjab 55,994 tons (excluding 9,000 tons allotted from Raza and Buland factories), to Bengal 50,292 tons and to Madras 25,770 tons (excluding 3,496 tons allotted from Mandya factory, Mysore). The allotment for the rest of the areas (medium importing and minor importing areas) amounted to 82,699 tons; and the total for all the importing provinces came to 2,89,789 tons.

Despatches during June 1 and September 5, 1942, amounted to 25,893 tons to Bombay, 34,688 tons to Punjab, 15,290 tons to Bengal, 6,500 tons to Madras, 28,530 tons to medium and minor importing areas and 1,10,901 tons to all the importing areas.

Expressed in term of percentages, Bombay secured during the period 34·5 per cent of its allocated quota, Punjab 61·9 per cent, Bengal 30·4 per cent, Madras 25·2 per cent and all the importing quota areas combined 38·3 per cent.

Permits issued for September, 1942, amount to 26,045 tons for Bombay, 7,970 tons for Punjab, 12,314 tons for Bengal, 13,956 tons for Madras, 19,593 tons for the medium and minor importing areas and 79,878 tons for all the importing quota areas.

## Sugar Production

The Second Memorandum on the production of sugar refined from *gur* in India during 1942, issued by the Director, Imperial Institute of Sugar Technology, Cawnpore, places the production at 13,800 tons as against the actual production of 48,500 tons in 1941. The number of refineries expected to work is 12 as against 14 in the previous year. The quantity of *gur* expected to be melted is 23,000 tons compared with the actual quantity of 87,300 tons in 1941. The percentage recoveries of sugar and molasses are estimated to be 60·00 and 28·69 respectively, as against the actual recoveries of 55·60 and 36·70 in the previous year.

## Unemployment

Attention is drawn to the high incidence of unemployment among the Indians in Natal and to the problem of finding jobs for the better educated young men among them in the Annual Report of the Protector of Indian Immigrants, Natal, for the year 1941.

Of 40,928 adult male Indians in the province about 26,000 are listed as employed (6,500 in the sugar industry) and a number of others are stated to be farming on their own or carrying on their own trades. There are stated to be many destitutes among the unemployed.

Clerical work and work as teachers in Government schools is what most of the young men from the schools and the Sastri College want, but there are not jobs enough to go round.

The schools provided for Indian children are much below the number required. Of the 123,645 children in the colony 28,839 are listed as attending Government and Government-aided schools.

The health of the Indians in Natal was good during the year. The birth rate was 48·32 per thousand and the death rate 13·11—both figures comparing favourably with those for the previous ten years.

No complaints were received regarding treatment of Indian labour on the estates, but the Report observes that their housing accommodation was still very poor.

## Sulphur For Sugar Industry

Owing to an unfortunate breakdown in the arrangements for the regular supply of crude sulphur from Baluchistan to the sugar industry, the Government of India have decided that certain quantities of sulphur, which had been earmarked for equally important but at the moment less urgent purposes, should be immediately made available to the industry so as to enable it to carry on production without interruption.

Distribution will be made on the basis of information made available to Government by sugar mills regarding their stocks and requirements of sulphur and the quantity of sulphur available.

A detailed scheme has been prepared, under which prices will be fixed by Government from time to time. Messrs. Kantawala Nanavati and Co. Ltd. have been entrusted with the working of the scheme, as agents of the Government of India in this matter.

This arrangement will prevail till such time as supplies of crude sulphur from Baluchistan could be resumed.

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1942





The tender leaves of the Aloe plant yield the best fibre for the manufacture of camouflage nets needed by the Defence Services. A long stick with a loop of string at the end is used to pluck the Aloe leaves



THE LEAVES ARE SCRAPED TO OBTAIN THE RAW MATERIAL OF THE ALOE FIBRE

## MANUFACTURE OF CAMOUFLAGE NETS

### SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

The Central Government this year is spending over Rs. 10 crores on purchases of war supplies from small scale industries. It is not only in the modern factories of India that the industrial frontline is being forged, but innumerable beehives of industry born and nurtured within the centuries-old traditions of ancient Indian craftsmanship, are today springing to new life. Opportunities in terms of hundreds of lakhs of rupees or in terms of millions of small stores are being provided. During 1941-42, purchases from small industries were of the order of Rs. 5 crores.

For several months now, an organisation specially devoted to the encouragement of small scale industries has combed the country. Certain teething difficulties had to be encountered and overcome and now a fair start has been made which is reflected in the progressively larger orders which are being placed.

The idea was passed on to the Departments of Industries in the Provinces and the States and efforts were made to introduce the co-operative method wherever local conditions were suitable, so that the primary producer rather than the middleman benefits. To mention three examples: in the Punjab the volume of production through the co-operative effort is described as most gratifying and the manufacture of cutlery in this area has reached eloquent figures. In the North-West Frontier Province, larger numbers of blankets, footwear and timber articles are produced for war supplies through the Provincial Co-operative Department. In the United Provinces, the co-operative scheme has diverted a large number of orders from other agencies to the small scale industry and the same is true of other

ALOE FIBRE IS SPUN BY HAND OR ON A PRIMITIVE SPINNING WHEEL







THE SPINNING OF ALOE AND COIR FIBRE PROVIDES EMPLOYMENT FOR THOUSANDS OF MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN TRAVANCORE

Provinces. The U.P. Government have placed Rs. 12,00,000 at the disposal of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies as interest-free loan.

In two recent months, the value of orders for non-textile items reached about Rs. 6 crores and textile orders about Rs. 3 crores. Plans are in hand for placing contracts for certain other items which were hitherto regarded as unprocureable owing to lack of raw material. But raw material or substitute material and new capacity have now been located in small workshops and contracts expected to exceed Rs. 5 crores are shortly to be placed.

Not the least encouraging feature of this development has been the skill and adaptability displayed by the small worker. A small workshop in the Punjab has been responsible for supplying a number of sewing machines to a local garrison and all these machines were made under the supervision of a man who cannot follow even a drawing. He saw a sample and had the skill to undertake the job and execute it to the satisfaction of the local Purchasing Organisation.

The war has familiarised the gruesome details of destruction in other parts of the world from the air; equally familiar as a

result of the war are the various measures taken for protection against air attacks. Few realize that a very simple device in the form of a net made of hemp and little bits of rag afford the most efficient protection for gun emplacements and vital war machinery from enemy reconnaissance. Today, millions of yards of these camouflage nets—so valuable and yet so simple—are being made by villagers in various parts of India. In 1941-42 these nets were worth Rs. 182 lakhs to them. They will be worth Rs. 5 crores this year.

Take pith hats. Nimble hands rather than iron tools make them. Even village

TRAVANCORE WORKERS ENGAGED IN MANUFACTURING CAMOUFLAGE NETS REQUIRED FOR WAR PURPOSES







TRAVANCORE ALSO HANDLES LARGE ORDERS FOR TENT COMPONENTS FOR WAR PURPOSES. HERE, WORKERS FIX LOOPS ON TENT CARRIERS

lads give a hand. They and their families supplied Rs. 43 lakhs worth during last year.

On the textiles side, handloom weavers accustomed to patterns of multi-coloured hue plying their shuttles according to age-long custom, now weave the utility *dosuti* or double yarn used for making tents or bandage cloth, gauze cloth, muzri, buntings and various woollen fabrics.

Inadequately equipped as these small workshops are, they display an amazing versatility of skill and craftsmanship and their usefulness in war time is judged not

only by the variety and size of production, but also by the relief that they give to the large industries by taking over the manufacture of the more simple and less complex items of war stores. They also achieve a dispersal of effort which is so essential in total war.

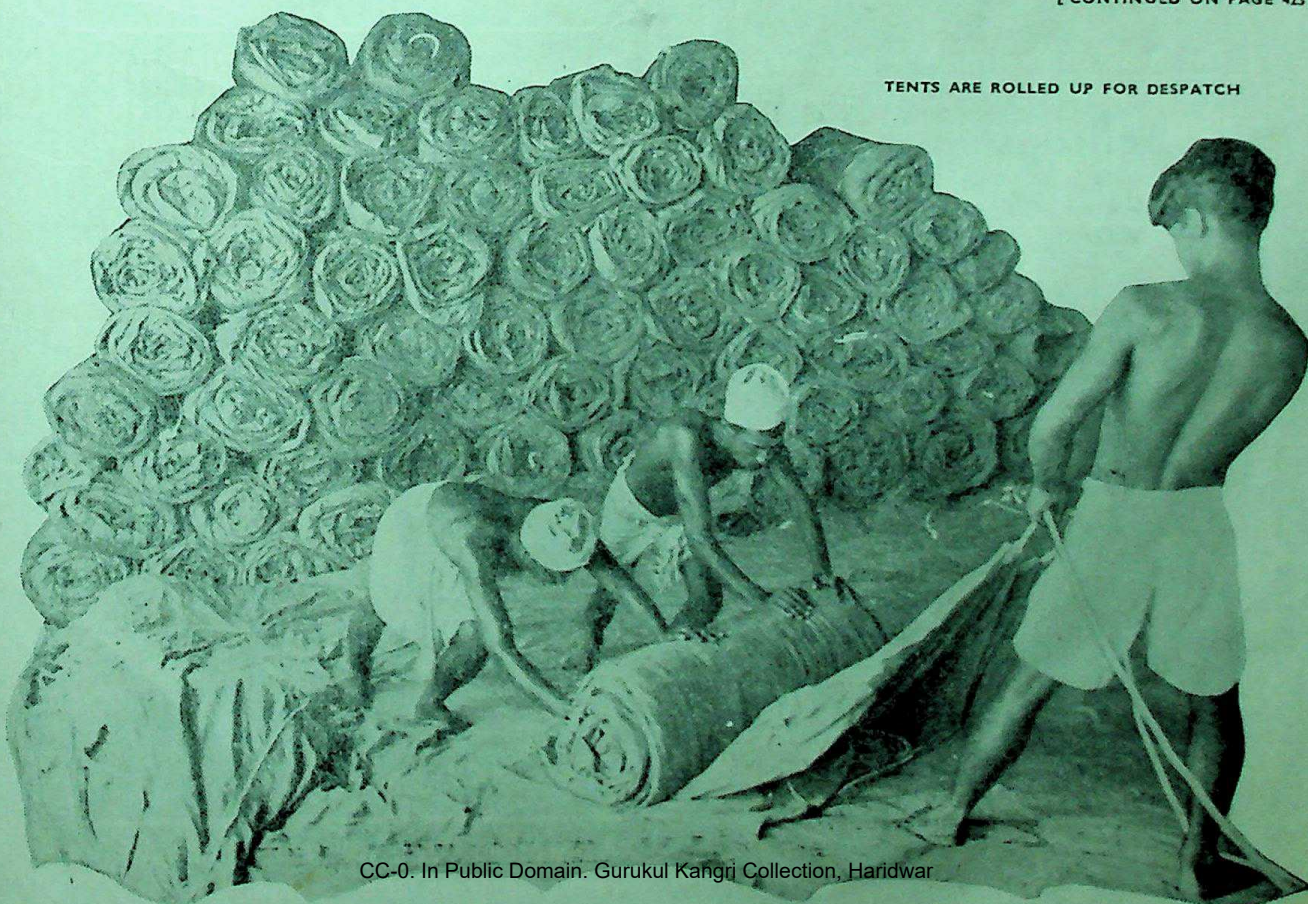
#### "Work And Win"

The Government of India in March last convened a conference of representatives of Provincial and State Governments to consider what part small industries can and should play in the procurement of war supplies. A list of articles suitable for

procurement through small industries was drawn up and a definite quota—about 25 per cent of the total requirements—was allotted to such supplies. Official agencies were set up in the Provinces and States, whose duty it is to organise small industries within their areas, secure contracts for articles which can be supplied by them and afford assistance in the matter of raw materials, finance, inspection and relations with the Supply Department and generally to promote the working of the whole scheme.

It is difficult to visualize the association of cottage industries with the production of the highly mechanical equipment needed

[ CONTINUED ON PAGE 423 ]



TENTS ARE ROLLED UP FOR DESPATCH



# TRAVANCORE'S COIR INDUSTRY



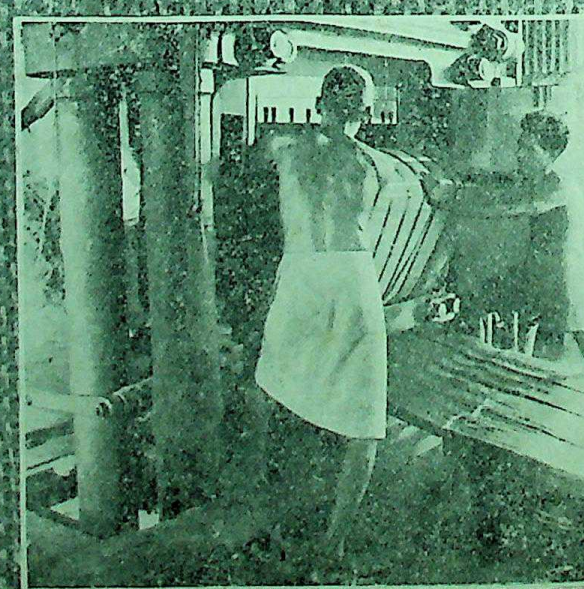
The husk of the coconut from which coir is made is first matured in pits dug along the borders of the backwaters. This soaking may last 14 months and improves quality and colour.



The sorting of coir is usually done by women. An expert with long experience may sort coir yarn into as many as 27 different shades.

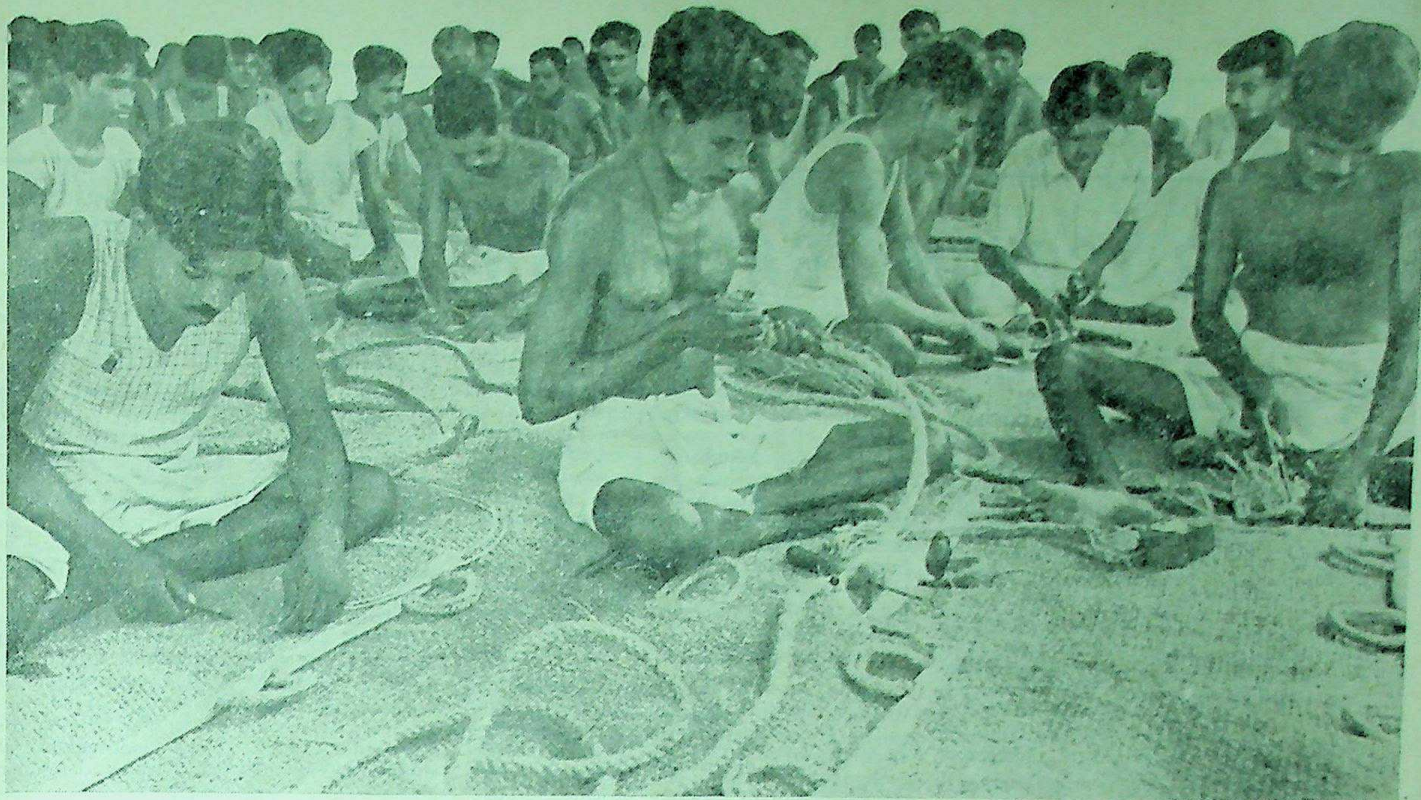


Travancore's training centre set up under the Government of India's Technical Training scheme.



A pressed bale of coir fibre is removed from the hydraulic press.





HERE WORKERS ARE FIXING ROPES AND LOOPS ON TENT COMPONENTS AND TENT CARRIERS

## SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

[ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 421 ]

for modern war. Camouflage nets and pith hats or cutlery or tents may not be mentioned in the same breath as guns, mortars or explosives. But an Army has not only to be equipped with arms: it has to be fed and clothed and thousands of other things make up the total. A very large number of these articles lend themselves to manufacture by hand or simple tools which are abundantly made in India. The aim of the small scale industries today is "work and win."

## HIGHER PRICES FOR INDIAN WOOL

It is announced that Indian shippers of wool to Liverpool will also receive the benefit of the 15 per cent increase in prices which was recently agreed to by H.M.G. for their purchases of the new season's clip in Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

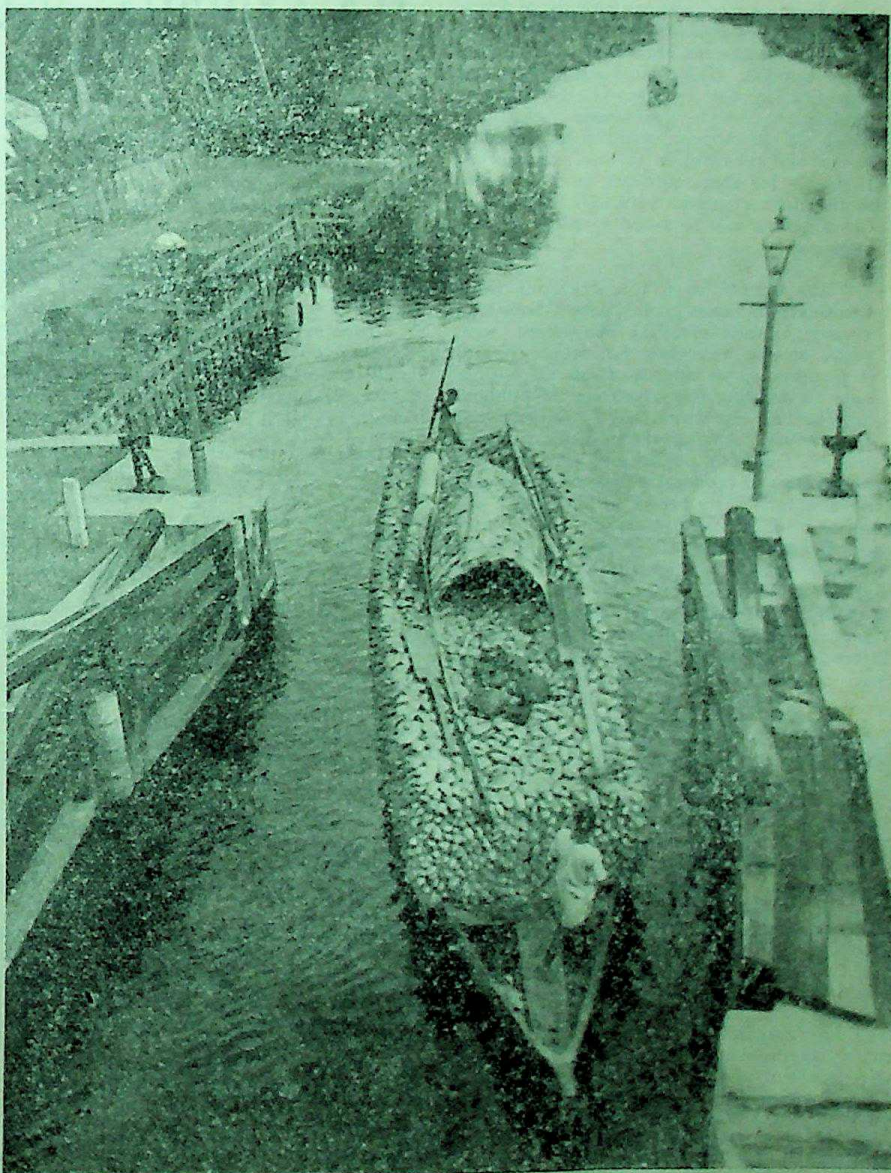
Accordingly, commencing with the shipments from October 1 (the beginning of the new season in India) the existing price schedule for Indian wools—which includes costs other than price paid to shippers—has been raised by 12 per cent corresponding to the 15 per cent increase in prices paid to the Dominion growers.

## EAST INDIAN WOOLS

An increase of 5.79 per cent on existing maximum selling prices fixed for East Indian Wools exported to Liverpool has been decided upon by the Wool Control in the United Kingdom. This was made applicable to shipments received in the United Kingdom on or after April 1, 1942, and was intended to cover the increase in freight and incidental charges since the last revision.

## QUININE SUPPLIES

Supplies of quinine have been made available to Provincial Governments for sale to medical practitioners, hospitals, employers of labour and the general public and applications for supplies of quinine should be made to the Provincial Government and not to the Central Government or to the Director-General, Indian Medical Service.



Travancore's waterways transport coconut products to ports where they are handled in factories and then exported. This load of coconut husk is on its way to Alleppey, city of coir



# COMMERCE—INDUSTRY—FINANCE

## PAPER ECONOMY CAMPAIGN

A serious shortage of paper is likely to develop unless consumption is drastically reduced in the coming months. Fortunately, however, there is still considerable scope for economy in the use of paper. This conclusion has been reached by the War Resources Committee of the Viceroy's Executive Council who are understood to have under examination the whole question of paper supplies and consumption.

The need for economy affects private individuals, commercial organisations, public and private bodies, homes, societies, associations and Departments of Government. The War Resources Committee have decided that the dire need for economy should be brought to the notice of both public and Government users of paper.

### Reduction In Government Publications

In regard to Departments of Government, certain measures are already in force. The War Resources Committee have urged that these measures should be more rigorously applied. They have also suggested reduction in the number of Government publications by the suspension of those which do not appear essential in wartime, or else the substitution of brief summaries. Demands for stationery are to be subject to the most stringent scrutiny. Provincial Governments will be asked to adopt similar measures.

The Committee feel that Chambers of Commerce, business houses, associations and various learned societies can adopt with profit similar measures for economy and it is proposed to address them all with a view to securing the suspension of publications and reports which may not be essential in wartime. Among the measures recommended for both public and private users are the use of economy labels on envelopes, use of small sheets typed on both sides, the omission of forwarding letters or minutes and of formal acknowledgments in all cases where these are not essential. It is hoped by energetic action on the part of all Government servants and co-operation on the part of the public that it will be possible to avoid the drastic restrictions that have been imposed on the use of paper in England.

### PAPER PRODUCTION COMMISSIONER APPOINTED

Conservation in the use of paper, rationalisation of paper production and the stepping up of Indian mill production to the maximum capacity, are the three main aims of the Government of India's policy in regard to this vital industry.

Conservation is being achieved by an intensive economy drive in all Departments of the Government of India. But while economy can be—and is being—effected in many directions, war demands have raised the requirements of Government from about 30 per cent of Indian production to over 70 per cent. War has also meant a drastic curtailment in imports of paper.

To meet the situation thus created, the Government of India in the Commerce

Department have appointed a Paper Production Commissioner (Mr. M. D. Bhargava, an officer of considerable experience in methods of paper manufacture) to devise measures for increasing production. One of his main functions will be to assist mills to step-up production to the maximum. Priority will be arranged for the import of certain necessary chemicals and machine parts which might be required by the mills; and it is hoped by these means to increase production to an extent sufficient to meet essential demands.

The Paper Production Commissioner will also consider the question of rationalisation of the industry—reducing the number of varieties of paper produced and concentrating on the production of those varieties which will give a larger writing surface.

## TEA EXPORTS REGULATION EXPLAINED

Relaxation of the order prohibiting private exports of Indian tea after September 30, 1942 (consequent on the introduction of the scheme for the block purchase of all exportable surplus) appears to have been misunderstood, says a Press communique issued by the Commerce Department, Government of India.

Export Trade Controllers were instructed to issue licences in certain cases to enable the clearance of stocks held against past firm contracts. It was, however, *not* the intention of Government that such teas should continue to be licensed, irrespective of the destinations to which they were bound.

Certain out-markets, such as Iraq, Persia and Egypt, have already received quantities of tea much in excess of their normal requirements and no further licences, therefore, will be issued for private exports to those countries.

As regards other destinations, licences will continue to be issued by the Export Trade Controllers, for the present, for the clearance of stocks held by exporters; provided that (a) the stocks are covered by definite contracts actually entered into and completed before September 15, 1942, for the sale of tea to parties in out-markets; and (b) the teas also were actually in the possession of exporters before that date.

This decision is subject to review if at any time it transpires that any out-markets are receiving abnormal supplies through private agencies. The Government of India desire to make it clear that it would be possible for exporters, whose stocks are not licensed under the above-mentioned conditions, to offer such frustrated stocks to the Ministry of Food through the Tea Controller, Calcutta.

### INDIA'S TEA RESERVE

There appears to be a certain amount of speculative hoarding of Indian tea, apparently under the impression that there may be a shortage for internal consumption during the current year.

## RICE EXPORTS TO CEYLON

Exports of rice from India to Ceylon are regulated with due regard to the supply position within India itself, the fullest consideration being given to the requirements of needy areas within the country.

The view that Ceylon has been placed in a better position in respect of supplies of rice than India itself, it is understood, is not correct. As a matter of fact, the rationing scheme, as at present operated in Ceylon, allows only one measure of rice per week for an adult supplemented by one measure of paddy or its equivalent in flour or wheat. This is less than half the normal consumption.

It is necessary in the interest of the war effort to keep up estate production at the highest possible. Moreover, Ceylon has a large Indian population who would be seriously affected by stoppage of supplies of rice. Above all, the importance to the defence of India of the maintenance of civilian morale in Ceylon has to be taken into account.

It may be stated that under no circumstances will Government allow India's internal reserve to fall below 130 million lbs., which is about 33 per cent in excess of last year's consumption.

Under the block purchase scheme, India will not export during 1942-43 to the full extent of her available tea export quota which is about 489 million lbs. (including the carry-over of allotment from 1941-42) but only her exportable surplus after maintaining an adequate reserve for internal consumption.

The estimated production for the current year is about 555 million lbs., of which only 421½ million lbs. will be allowed to be exported under the new scheme—both for the United Kingdom and out-markets. The crop which will remain for the current year's internal consumption will be about 134 million lbs.

It may be added that the progress of the all-India tea crop during 1942-43 is so far appreciably higher than the corresponding production of last year.

### THREE PER CENT LOAN 1963-65

Subscriptions from the public for the special issue of the 3 per cent Loan, 1963-65, amounted to Rs. 3,41,47,200. The Reserve Bank of India has taken up the balance of Rs. 11,58,52,800 and an equivalent amount of *ad hoc* Treasury Bills has been cancelled.

### OIL COMPANY'S OFFER ACCEPTED

The Western India Oil Distributing Company through its Managing Director have come to the assistance of Government by offering such portions of their storage facilities, equipment and plant as Government require for its need in the war effort. It is understood that Government have accepted this offer and will, for the duration of the War, control these properties which are to be handed back to the Company *in toto* when the war is over.

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1942



# DEARNESS ALLOWANCE, LABOUR WELFARE AND THE MINING INDUSTRY IN INDIA

## Standing Finance Committee Decisions

force employed in construction work or in factories producing materials necessary for the successful prosecution of the war had largely increased; labour problems had thus assumed vital importance in war time necessitating close contact with labour.

With this object in view, the post of the Labour Welfare Adviser was created, for a period of one year or for the duration of the war, whichever was shorter. This appointment was considered essential for the purpose of establishing direct contact between Government on the one side and employers and workers on the other side and to secure first-hand information from which labour welfare policy could be co-ordinated throughout India. The Committee was informed that the appointment had proved to be of great value; but at the same time it was considered essential that the Labour Welfare Adviser, who could not be everywhere at once, should have help in order to discharge his duties effectively. For this purpose it was proposed to appoint eight Assistant Labour Welfare Officers on a fixed salary of Rs. 400-600 per mensem for the duration of the war to assist the Labour Welfare Adviser in the maintenance of contact with the labour forces all over the country.

The proposal, which was approved by the Committee, entails a recurring expenditure of about Rs. 80,000 per annum.

### Mining Industry

The Committee then examined proposals relating to the creation of the Utilisation Branch of the Geological Survey of India.

**P**roposals relating to the grant of enhanced rates of dearness allowance to low-paid Government servants of the Central Government, constitution of a temporary organisation for liaison work between Government, employers and workers, creation of a Utilisation Branch of the Geological Survey of India and provision of additional residential accommodation in New Delhi during 1942-43, were approved by the Standing Finance Committee which met in New Delhi, the Hon'ble Sir Jeremy Raisman, Finance Member, Government of India, presiding.

### Dearness Allowance

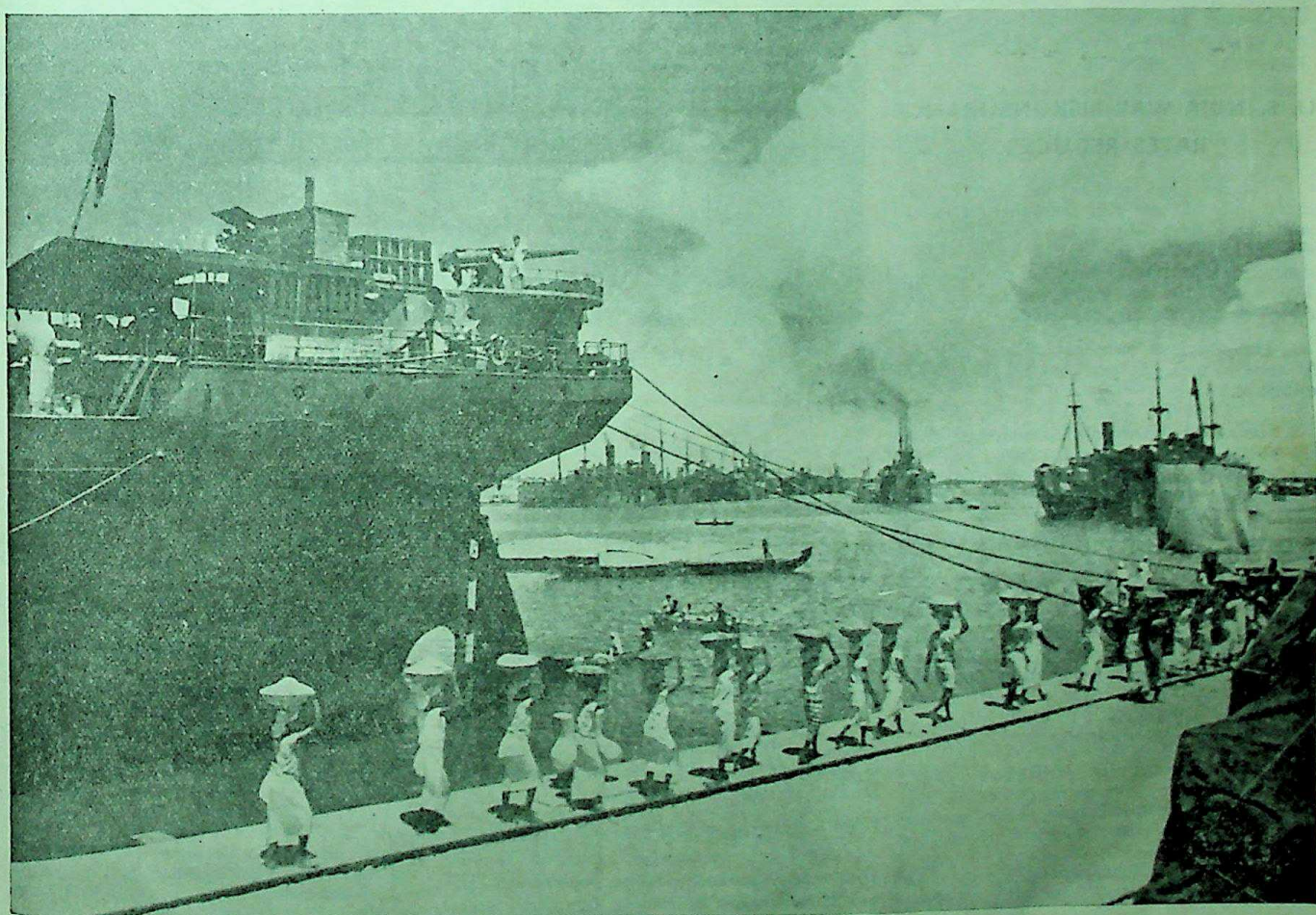
It was explained to the Committee that at its meeting held on March 8, 1941, it had approved of the proposal for the grant of relief to low-paid Government servants whose pay permitted of a little or no margin to meet the increased cost of living caused by the war. In view of the very sharp and widespread rise in the cost of living, which elicited a large number of representations of hardships, it became necessary to review the general position; and Government, consequently, decided that relief on a more generous scale should be afforded. This was done by liberalising the amounts

hitherto given and by raising the limits of pay up to which relief had been previously admissible. It was also considered advisable, with reference particularly to the conditions in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, to adopt a scheme on an all-India basis. The Government of India accordingly sanctioned a revised scheme applicable to all the servants of the Central Government, other than servants of the Railways for whom a separate scheme had been framed, whether stationed in the various Provinces or in Centrally administered areas.

The Committee was informed that exact figures of cost were not yet available but that on a rough calculation the scheme was estimated to cost Rs. 170 lakhs per annum, for all Central Government servants, including Posts and Telegraphs but excluding the Railway personnel.

### Labour Welfare

Explaining the proposals relating to the constitution of a temporary organisation for the duration of the war for liaison work between Government, employers and workers, it was stated that, as a direct result of India's war effort, the labour



WOMEN LABOURERS AT WORK IN A PORT ON THE WEST COAST OF INDIA



This branch was brought into existence in April last as a wartime measure, with a view to utilising to the best advantage the mineral resources of India by carrying out the necessary field work for proving mineral deposits, initiate, where necessary, preliminary mining operations and conduct such experimental work as might be necessary to solve ore-dressing, smelting and other problems relating to production.

The Committee was informed that a programme of work for the Utilisation Branch had been drawn up. It was proposed that the following investigations and work should be taken up: reopening of the lead and zinc mines of Zawar in Udaipur State, development of Rajputana mica mines, working of sulphur deposits in Baluchistan, operations for wolfram in Bengal and the Central Provinces, examination of certain deposits in Bihar and search for certain minerals, stones, salts and related substances.

The Standing Finance Committee approved an expenditure of Rs. 12,51,750 in the current year in respect of the Utilisation Branch. Against this expenditure there would be some receipts by sale of commodities such as sulphur. Work at Zawar indicated prospects of larger quantities of ore but it was too early yet to say whether the ore would be rich enough to make working payable.

The Committee then took up for consideration proposals relating to the provision of additional residential accommodation in New Delhi during 1942-43. As the demand for residential accommodation had continued to increase, it was proposed to meet this by constructing hutments, 350 E-class clerks' quarters and tented accommodation and by leasing and requisitioning private houses. The total non-recurrent cost of this construction was estimated at Rs. 37,22,506. It was also proposed to provide additional office accommodation to the Supply and other Departments at a non-recurrent cost of Rs. 8,44,236. The proposals were approved.

## U. S.-INDIA WAR RISK INSURANCE RATES REDUCED

Marine underwriters in New York have reduced war risk insurance rates to and from Egypt by way of the Cape of Good Hope to 20 per cent of cargo value, owing to British successes in the Western Desert and the increasing success of the Allied anti-submarine campaign.

The previous rate was 25 per cent to Alexandria and 22½ per cent to Port Said and Suez.

The underwriters also announced that war risk rates on cargoes to and from the east coast of India not east of Calcutta had been cut to 20 per cent from 25 per cent.

## FOOD SUPPLIES FOR BALUCHISTAN

The Government of India wish to make known the fact that there is no truth whatsoever in the report published by certain newspapers that as a result of shortage of food the civil population of Baluchistan is to be evacuated on a large scale.

On the interruption of Railway communications the Government of India immediately organised emergency supply routes and adequate quantities of supply are reaching Quetta. So far from any deterioration being anticipated, it is confidently expected that as the initial difficulties on these routes are smoothed out the imports of supplies will increase.



A MINER DEMONSTRATES THE LIGHTNESS OF HIGH-GRADE SHALE

## MANUFACTURE OF MOTOR SPIRIT FROM SHALE

**M**otor spirit is being produced in Australia from extensive shale deposits. After being crushed the shale is subjected to intense heat, and the gas which is given off is passed through condensers, and converted into a liquid known as crude oil.

Some of the gas, however, is unsuited for the manufacture of crude oil, and it is fed back to the retorts and used for heating purposes.

### High Compression Engines

After treatment, the crude oil leaves the cracking plant as motor spirit or gasoline, and after further refinement is suitable for modern high compression engines.

The motor spirit is then pumped through a pipe line a distance of 35 miles to a railway station.

### QUICKER PAYMENTS FOR CONTRACTORS

To effect speedier payment to suppliers working against contracts placed by the Controllers of Supplies, Bombay and Madras, and the Assistant Director-General, Cotton Textiles, Bombay, a Branch of the Office of the Chief Controller of Supply Accounts, New Delhi, designated as the office of the Controller of Supply Accounts has been recently opened in Bombay and will receive and make payments against all bills relating to acceptances of tenders issued by the Assistant Director-General, Cotton Textiles, and the Controllers of Supplies, Madras and Bombay.

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1942



# COMMEMORATION OF CIVILIAN WAR DEAD

## An Appeal To The Public

In the last war, the Imperial War Graves Commission was concerned with the commemoration of members of His Majesty's Forces who were killed on active service; in the present conflict the Commission's duty extends to compiling records for every civilian subject under His Majesty's protection and suzerainty and every national of any territory mandated to His Majesty who has died, or may die, during the present war from war injuries, wheresoever sustained.

As regards the peoples of India, the Commission is concerned with all classes of civilian British, British Indian and Indian Nationals, whether residing in British India or in Indian States, and also with British Indians and Indians residing in countries outside India.

It has been decided, in consultation with Provincial Governments, Chief Commissioners and the Imperial War Graves Commission, that the records should be arranged according to Provinces, sub-classified into divisions, districts, sub-divisions, towns and villages, showing the civilians who die in any particular place, irrespective of their place of domicile.

### Details To Be Recorded

Regarding the particulars appropriate for Indian Nationals, the particulars recorded in the United Kingdom are:—

- (1) Name; (2) Permanent home address;
- (3) Degrees, Honours and Decorations;
- (4) Service, Service Number, Rank or Appointment (only in cases of members of Civil Defence Services); (5) Sex; (6) Age;
- (7) Son or Daughter, and Husband or Wife of (name and address), family details being added if desired; (8) Nationality;
- (9) Date and place of death; (10) Date of incident causing death; (11) Place of incident causing death; (12) Place of burial;
- (13) Other details (if desired).

As the Commission's object is to commemorate the sacrifices made by all classes of Indians in the same form as those of their British comrades, it has been decided that all the above items should be collected, that a new item "Religion and Caste or Sect" be added after item 2 and also that the words "or cremation" be added to item 12 above.

### An Appeal

The co-operation of the public is requested especially in regard to civilian Indian Nationals who die, or who have died, of war injuries outside the territories under the control of the Government of India. It is likely, for instance, that persons now residing in India have information regarding civilian Indian Nationals who died of war injuries in Burma.

Anybody who is aware of any British Indian or civilian Indian National who is definitely known to have been killed, or to have died of war injuries, outside territories under the control of the Government of India should get in touch with the local authorities, in order that the necessary information may be recorded and sent to the Imperial War Graves Commission,

through the Civil Defence Department and the High Commissioner for India in London.

## ADVANCES TO PERSONS RECEIVING WAR INJURIES

With a view to speeding up the grant of effective help to persons receiving war injuries or the dependants of those killed as a result of such injuries, the Government of India have decided that employers may grant advances (of up to Rs. 50 in the case of each casualty) to persons who have sustained such injuries or, in case of death, to those dependants who would be eligible for pensions under the War Injuries Scheme. The employer making such an advance will be repaid by Government from out of the regular award, if and when made, in monthly instalments not exceeding half the amount of the award.

The War Injuries Scheme and Regulations provide a simple procedure for claiming and obtaining relief. The examination of claims may, however, take a little time in some cases and the present decision has been taken in order that provisional relief may be given to needy persons.

## INDIAN CIVILIANS' DEVOTION TO DUTY

H. E. the Governor of Assam has been asked to convey to Indian civilians and particularly Indian labour in the vicinity of aerodromes recently bombed in Northeast Assam, and to the Assam local authorities, the appreciation of the American Army for their steadiness and devotion to duty during and after the enemy attack.

To this message H.E. the Viceroy and H.E. the Commander-in-Chief added their congratulations.

## Haj Pilgrimage

The Government of India announced recently that the danger to which pilgrim ships and their passengers would be exposed by enemy action made it inevitable that no arrangements could be made for the Haj Pilgrimage this year by sea.

This announcement has led to the receipt of many enquiries on the subject of land routes, with regard to which misleading paragraphs have appeared in the Press. The only practicable land routes worth consideration are those via Iraq, Bahrain or Kuwait, which themselves involve a lengthy sea journey from India up the Persian Gulf.

The same reasons which led to the decision not to arrange a Haj Pilgrimage via Jeddah this year apply to the Persian Gulf route. Moreover, even if pilgrims were able to reach Iraq, Bahrain or Kuwait, the Government of India, after consulting His Majesty's Representatives in Iraq, Saudi Arabia and the Persian Gulf, feel it their duty to invite the attention of prospective pilgrims to the fact that adequate motor transport will not be available on these routes. Pilgrims attempting the journey who, by some means or other have been able to reach Iraq, Bahrain or Kuwait would almost inevitably find themselves unable to proceed further than those places

and would have to incur expenses without being in a position to realise their hopes.

The Government of India have asked the Haj Committees to inform pilgrims of this position.

### No Haj Pilgrim Passages At Ports

In spite of the publicity given to the announcements that the Government of India are unable to arrange for the conveyance of pilgrims by any sea route, some pilgrims appear to be under the impression that passages can be obtained at ports. The Government of India would, therefore, impress on all persons interested that intending pilgrims should not leave their homes for Indian ports on the chance of being able to obtain accommodation on vessels bound for the Red Sea or the Persian Gulf as they are almost certain to be disappointed.

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## A. R. P. WARDEN

[ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 409 ]

principle: a warden may meet with fire, high-explosive damage, and gas and, therefore, must know just what to do in all circumstances. And he must keep a cool head.

"Wardens must know how to look after themselves too. They must be exposed to risks, as to do their job they must be out during the raid. But it is most important to avoid unnecessary casualties among them.

### Women Wardens As Good As Men

"I have spoken of wardens and it may have been inferred that I was talking only about men. But I should like to emphasise that women make just as good wardens as men—sometimes better. And there are obviously some jobs which women alone can do successfully. We have many women in the Wardens Service, some of them holding positions of great responsibility. I know one, and she is not unique, who has several hundred wardens working under her. And they would follow her anywhere. As for the public she looks after, they have told me that so long as she is about and they know she is there they don't mind what happens. Could you have a finer tribute?"

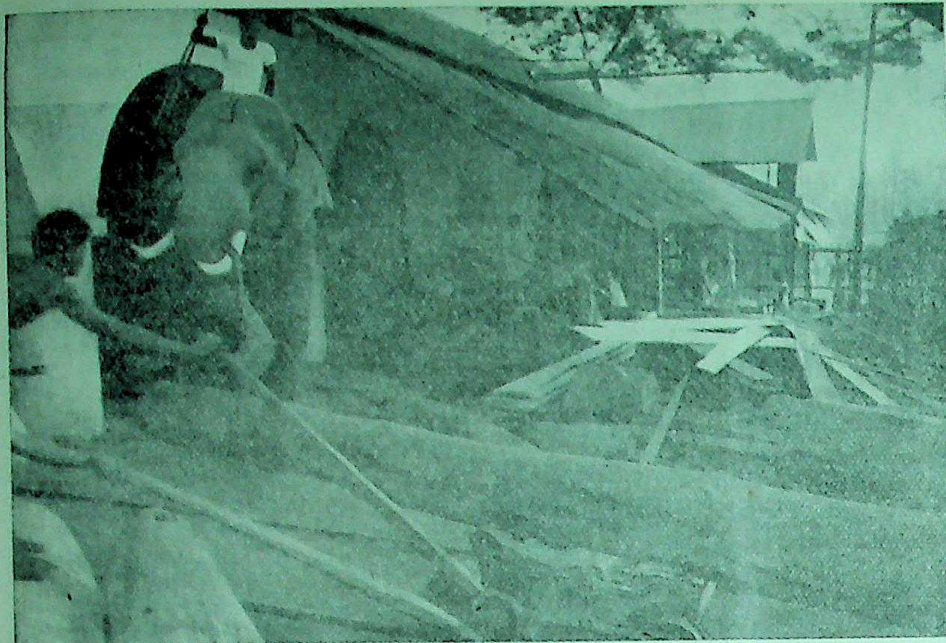
"And that is just what you want—the public to feel that because the wardens are there helping and encouraging with a cheery word, everything is all right. That is the spirit that has helped us to stick out the raids. That is the spirit that breaks the blitz. And that is what the wardens have managed to achieve.

### Where Practice Tells

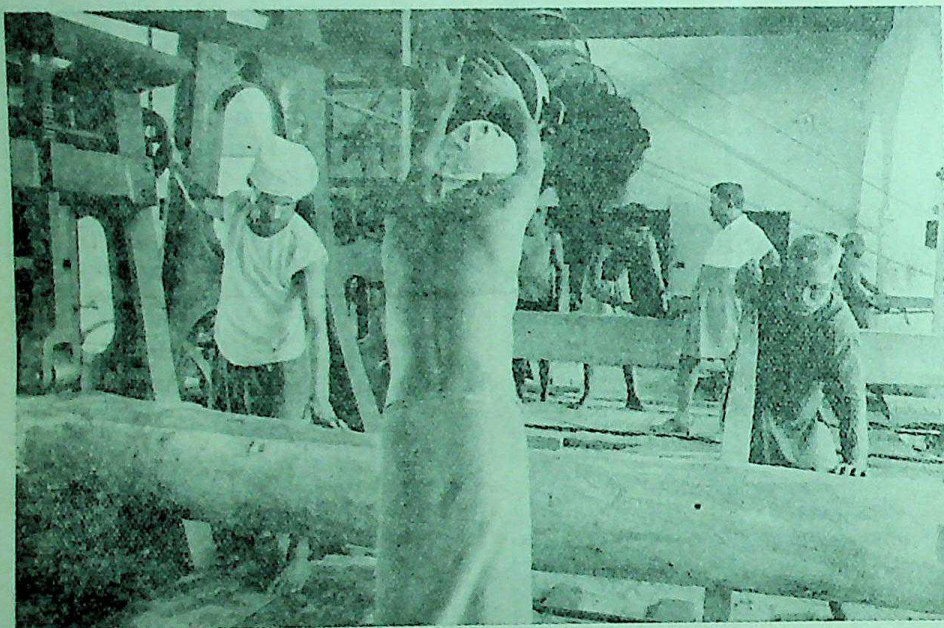
"So may I leave this thought with you. The wardens can't know too much about the area of which they are in charge; they can't have too much practice, especially in sending messages and in summing up a situation quickly and accurately. Message-writing and sending sounds easy. But it is not quite the same thing to do it under ordinary conditions and to do it with bombs bursting and fires raging. That is where practice tells, and practice means instinctively doing the right thing however difficult the position. And also all wardens must be prepared to act on their own responsibility. We do not normally let them call out services direct. But if communications go, they may have to do it and we do not want them to be afraid to act on their own.

"I have told you a little about the importance of wardens. I believe there may be a future for this organisation of gallant men and women after the war. But in the meantime if they are and remain the guides, philosophers, and friends of the civil population they are making their contribution to our ultimate victory in no uncertain way."

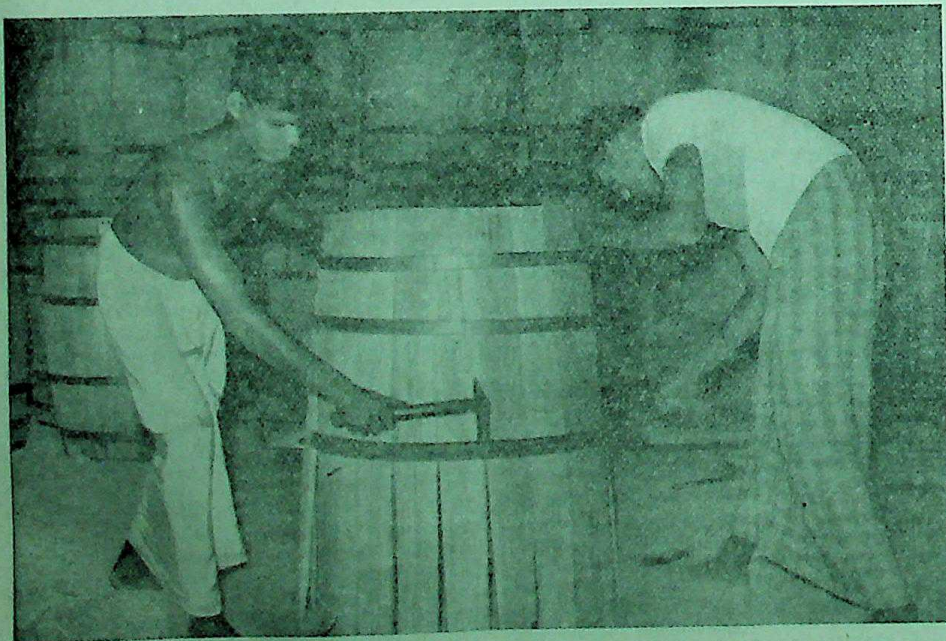




The elephant plays its part in Travancore's timber industry. Here is a trained tusker placing logs of teak on the cradle of a belt-driven frame saw



HUGE LOGS OF TEAK ARE SAWN BY A BELT-DRIVEN VERTICAL SAW IN A TRAVANCORE WORKSHOP



HOOPING THE BARRELS WHICH ARE MADE OF FINE TEAK

# MANAGEMENT OF FORESTS

## SIR JOGENDRA SINGH'S PLEA

"Trees possibly are the first-born of mother earth; where there are trees, there is rain. When trees die, the earth ceases to bear altogether," observed the Hon'ble Sirdar Sir Jogendra Singh, Member for Education, Health and Lands, opening the meeting of the Board of Forestry at Dehra Dun recently.

Here is the full text of Sir Jogendra Singh's speech :—

It is years since I enjoyed the hospitality of Sir George Hart, the then Inspector-General of Forests, when I came to Dehra Dun to assist in selecting candidates for the Imperial Forest Service. The Colleges and the Forest Research Institute were still in the making. It was the ambition of one of my predecessors—the late Sir Narasimha Sarma—to raise the Forest College up to the highest European standard. I rejoiced when on November 1, 1926, the College opened its doors to receive candidates and I deeply regretted when after a very short period of six years its doors were closed on November 1, 1932.

I am glad to know that Provinces have been driven to recognise the need of highly trained officers and the College has been opened again. I am pleased to know that the standard prescribed for the Indian Forest College is the same as the degree course of a British University leading up to the grant of the College diploma in Forestry. It will be for you to consider whether any further improvement is necessary in the course at the Indian Forest College or the Indian Forest Rangers College.

### Substantial Achievements

I am gratified to know that the Research Institute has suffered no eclipse. It has proved its value in these difficult days of war. Research finds recognition when it begins to cater for the public needs and helps in meeting our urgent requirements in creating new industries.

I am glad that the Research Institute under the fostering care of Mr. Howard has substantial achievements to its credit. Its Botanical, Silvicultural, Entomological, Chemistry and Forest Products Sections have been making material contribution to meet the demands of the Army. The Institute has been instructing officers in the art of identifying various varieties of timber, exploring other sources of vegetable rubber, producing oils from *chir* pine and developing processes which have enabled a firm to produce disinfectants for our troops. The Institute has produced ephedrine from ephedra, derris and tar from pines. It has determined the kind of charcoal best suited for generating producer gas.

### Forest Research Institute's Work

The Wood Technology Section has tested ammunition boxes, army boot boxes, crates for sola tops, propellers, spars for plywood, glue joints, parachute containers and a number of other special articles completing nearly half a million tests. It has discovered a new form of construction using hard wood dowels for roof trusses.

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1942





MAKING LIDS FOR THE BARRELS. THE CARPENTER ON THE RIGHT IS USING THE TRADITIONAL HAND-DRILL OF THE SOUTH

and bridges, saving a considerable amount of metal and money. In one case the application of this discovery saved six lakhs of rupees. The way to defeat armies of white ants has been found and adopted by the Supply Department and seasoning in kilns has proved its value and gained in popularity. There are 68 kilns now at work.

The Wood Working and Mechanical Section is generally a supply unit but it has broadened its scope of activities and made plywood containers, laminated boot lasts, naval plywood, test ammunition boxes. A cold setting adhesive and new glues

from indigenous products have been evolved to replace casein and other types of cements needed for naval and other uses.

The Institute has proved that India has suitable timber for use in aircraft, which was considered out of the question a year ago. There are now three officers on special duty exploiting spruce and fir for this purpose. A large variety of plywood containers have been constructed at the Institute as substitutes for metal containers, ranging from one-pound tins and canisters to sturdy 50-gallon drums for road tar. They have been accepted by the Army and are now being produced by several

firms for keeping oils, greases, dry-goods and medical stores. Apart from making and repairing wooden air screws, the Institute has worked out the technique for making "compregnated" wood (wood which is both compressed and impregnated).

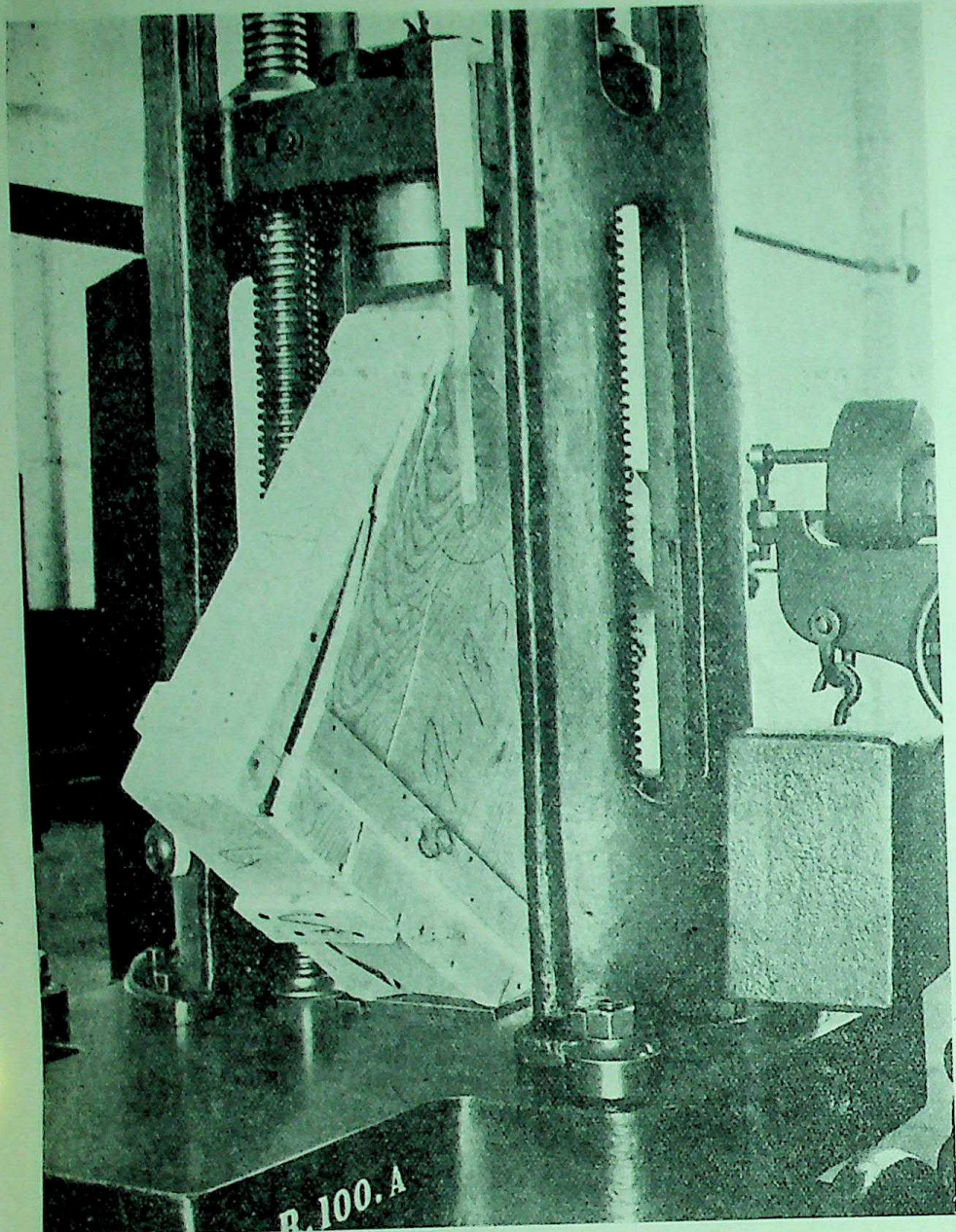
The Paper Pulp Section is engaged in making a bulk supply of paper for various military uses and map paper for the Survey of India, in addition to investigations connected with natural and synthetic dyes, water-proof paper and specifications for cardboard containers for Ordnance and Medical stores. The scope of development of this Branch is as great as the growing demand for paper.

TRAVANCORE WORKSHOPS ARE EXECUTING SUPPLY DEPARTMENT ORDERS FOR THESE BARRELS





## LANDS



The Forest Research Institute has devised measures to test the strength of various types of wood. Here is a machine used for the Diagonal Compression Test

May I now turn from the achievement of the Institute to the formation of the Board which it is my privilege and pleasure to open today. It was a happy idea conceived in 1934 that the Ministers in charge of Forests and Forest Officers and experts should meet together every three years and formulate permanent policies. The first meeting of the newly constituted Board was called to meet early in 1939, but Provincial Ministers resigned and the meeting was postponed. It is unfortunate that popular Provincial Governments have not re-started to function.

Eight years have sped their way. New problems have arisen. The need of taking counsel on the general policy for research and education and forest administration during the war and to plan for the future is the reason for our meeting here today. Indeed I feel that though the Board could meet every three years, it would be an advantage if senior Forest Officers could meet every year and discuss from their own technical point of view questions of general interest and immediate importance at a Forest Officers' Annual Conference in the same way as the Central Board of Irrigation.

I dare not presume to dwell on the numerous matters in the agenda which relate to technical matters. On the broader aspects

of forestry, there are one or two points on which a layman can venture to hazard suggestions.

Trees possibly are the first-born of mother earth; where there are trees, there is rain. When trees die, the earth ceases to bear altogether. It has been established beyond all shadow of doubt that correct forest management in the mountains and hills which form the head-water of our streams, accompanied by proper land management of the area through which these streams pass, are essential to prevent floods and erosion. Neglect leads to denudation, floods and devastation of the countryside. The forests have played and will continue to play a very vital part in the life of humanity. They supply fuel to feed the home fires, timber to build implements of agriculture and dwelling houses, bullock carts and boats to carry the produce and umbriferous trees to provide shade for man and beast.

It was recognition of the importance of preserving forests that led the Government of India in 1894 to define its forest policy which was declared to be, on the one hand, the protection of the forests and, on the other hand, the maintenance of the rights of the inhabitants unless in the larger interests of the community restriction became inevitable. The terrible ravines of

the Chambal and of the Jumna which have devastated the face of a once fair land were not caused by mismanagement by the local inhabitants but by the denudation of forests in the Himalayas hundreds of miles away.

In addition to the growing of actual forests the remedies against floods and erosion are the growing of shelter belts of trees or growing of leguminous crops which help to enrich the soil, and where erosion has gone too far coarse grasses or sedges can be grown as a preliminary to the introduction of more valuable crops. The spread of ravines can be prevented by proper management. By controlling grazing, ravines clothe themselves with grass and indigenous shrubs. Such measures call for co-operation of the villages and such co-operation has been largely achieved in some parts of the Punjab. The only reason why vegetation has disappeared in most parts of India is because man has indiscriminately hacked and burnt the trees, and has grazed his animals without control and without realising that the land can only support a definite amount of grazing. It should never be forgotten that to attempt afforestation as a remedy for soil erosion without at the same time controlling man and his animals is a waste of time and money.

### Proper Land Management

The question of proper land management to prevent the devastation, which has spread over so many other countries after deforestation, from laying waste our own fair country has been the subject of debate in various committees connected with the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, and at last it has been agreed by the Advisory Board of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research that an officer should be appointed to collect information and to crystallise the problem.

Naturally the forests have engaged most of the attention of our Forest Officers. The time has, however, come when they should include the villages as one of their responsibilities. The need of 700,000 villages in the matter of tree plantation has so far received scant attention. It may be useful to take a group of villages and start plantations. Land could be rented for the purpose and trees planted to provide fuel and timber and the grass for feeding the cattle. These village plantations may prove of great economic value, saving the cow-dung for manure, and may even provide large quantities of material for making humus and manure.

Another direction to which I may invite your attention is that there are vast areas which climatic conditions make it impossible to bring under cultivation. It may be possible to lift water for irrigation for starting plantations and to grow trees which require a minimum amount of water. An experiment in this direction may enable the afforestation of areas which now lie waste, are classed as culturable but cannot be cultivated.

Increased production from land depends on providing plant food by supplying the soil with manure. Adequate supply of manure is, perhaps, the most important single problem connected with Indian agriculture. The magnificent agricultural crops produced from virgin forest soil are the result of exuberant fertility given by years of leaf-shedding and slow decay into humus, providing a first-class vegetable compost. It may well be a problem worthy of the



## LANDS

attention of foresters and agriculturists, whether surplus supply of leaf mould fertilisers could not by some method be transferred from the forests to the villages, without drawing on the requirements of the forest soil.

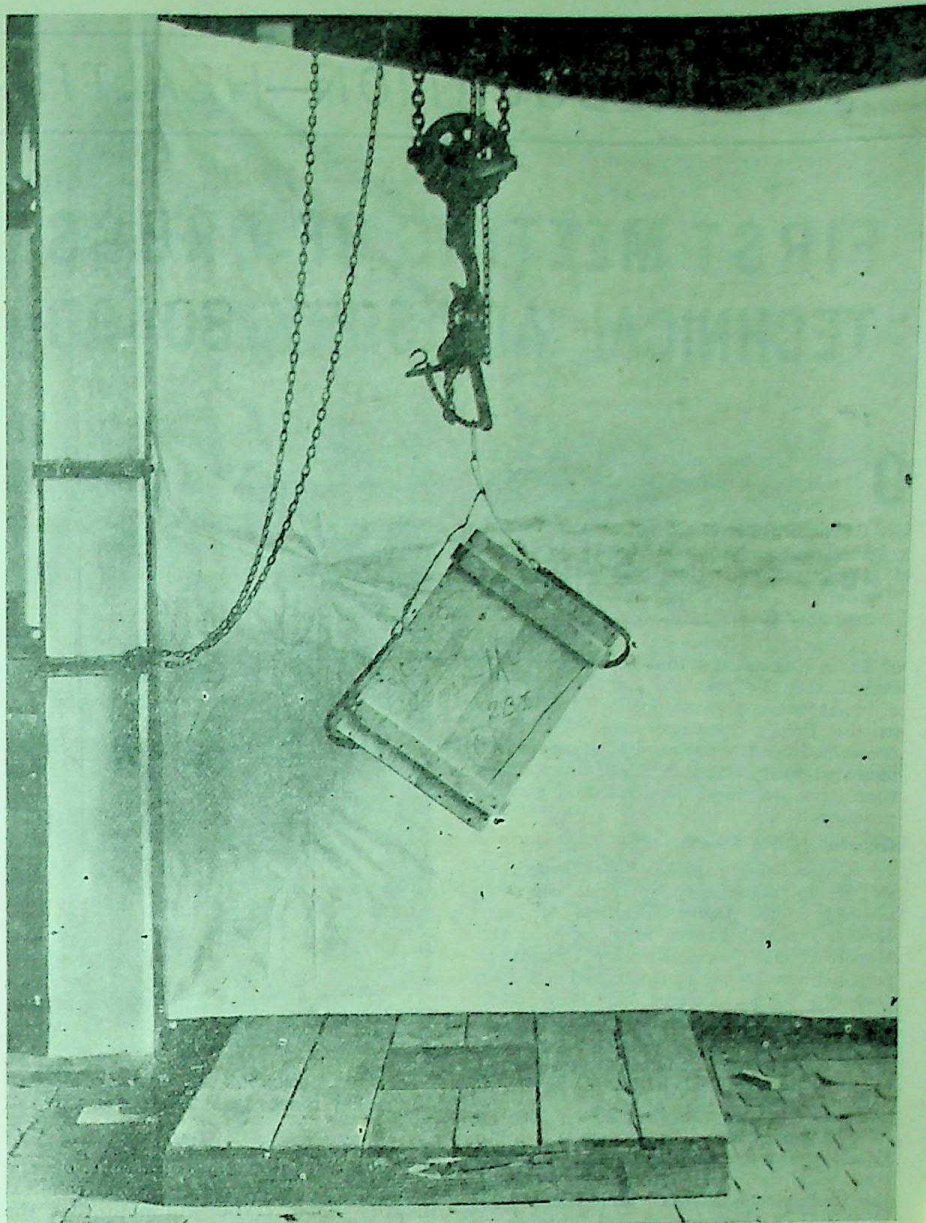
Those villagers who are fortunate enough to live near forests get from them timber for their ploughs, grass for their houses and grazing for their cattle and a host of other material. In addition to that the fertility of their fields is largely increased and their water supply controlled by the protective influence of the neighbouring forests. But what of other unfortunate villagers who have no forests in their immediate neighbourhood? What of the vast numbers who inhabit the enormous areas of the Punjab and the Gangetic Plain? They get none of these amenities, their cattle are often starved, their houses are poor, they are forced to use valuable manure for their fuel, their crops suffer in consequence and the lack of nourishment eventually affects the physique and health of man himself. It is one of our great problems not only to instil into the mind of the peasant the value of forests to him but, if possible, to bring the benefits enjoyed by those who inhabit the fringe of the hills near the forests down to the dwellers in the plains. Such work means spending money in initial stages to encourage the villager by actual demonstration how to grow forest for himself on all waste lands. In Madras, in Orissa and in the U. P. work is being done in this direction. Before the war put a partial end to these activities the Forest Development Officer in the U. P. had got a certain amount of work started in many districts of the plains in the U.P. and more especially in those hot and dry areas in the east of the province. There is room for vast improvement in this organisation which, I trust, will continue to expand even more rapidly than before.

In earlier days the primary duty of public servants was the administration of law and order; out of it grew a sense of superior aloofness which affected even such ancillary services as Agriculture, Forestry and Medical. They who were to become helpers became Hakims. The time has come when there should grow a greater sense of unity between the people and the officers. The nation-building departments must win the confidence and trust of the people whose interests it is their duty to serve.

In conclusion, I can assure you it shall be my anxious care during my tenure of office to help you to raise the College and the Institute to a premier position in India, so that the Forest Department may bring more and more areas under its beneficent activities and secure for the people better dwelling houses, a higher standard of living and, above all, a greater unity of will and purpose with a growing spirit of sacrifice, which is essential if India is to become a Sovereign State and maintain its sovereignty by becoming the protector of all, closing all controversies which have their root in distrust and misconceived ideas of sovereignty. A Sovereign Power, according to an ancient saying, fulfils its purpose only when it enables the tiger and the goat to drink from the same fountain and at the same time.

### SIR JOGENDRA SINGH VISITS LALWALA PLANTATIONS

To see for himself the progress of an experiment in *taungya* cultivation which is being conducted by the Forest Department in co-operation with agriculturists, the



**The Drop Test**—The box is dropped on the small edges from successively increasing heights until complete failure occurs

Hon'ble Sirdar Sir Jogendra Singh, Member for Education, Health and Lands, visited the Lalwala Plantations in the Saharanpur Forest Division recently.

Under the *taungya* system forest land, after felling of trees, is given out to agriculturists, who replant the area with trees supplied by the Forest Department and grow their own crops on the land until the trees attain maturity. The small timber and fuel required by the villagers is supplied from the forest area.

The system is capable of wide extension and is an example of what can be achieved by the co-operation of the Forest Department and agriculturists, the need for which was emphasized by Sir Jogendra Singh in his address to the Board of Forestry at Dehra Dun.

### TIMBER FOR BUILDING AIRCRAFT

Along the slopes of the Himalayas, the thick wooded forests are being combed for timber of the right quality which can be used for building aircraft.

Canada and the United States can supply the wood, but a determined bid is being made to investigate the possibility of meeting as large a proportion as possible of Indian requirements from Indian wood.

Three separate agencies, official and unofficial, are now engaged in the work of investigation. Experiments have already proved the suitability of Himalayan fir and spruce and operations for extracting these woods on a commercial scale have already started. Possibilities of extracting champ and bonsum from the Assam woods are now under investigation.

Wood of the aircraft quality needs to have a high strength to weight ratio. The proper selection, conversion and seasoning of the timber is a matter of high technique and recently a Forest Officer was specially appointed to undergo training in the art of aircraft timber extraction.

The Kulu Division in the Punjab, the Tehri-Garhwal State and the forests of Assam are three locations from where it is expected to obtain these special quality woods.

In regard to various other supplies for Defence purposes, the timber resources of India last year met demands through the Department of Supply to the total of 396,000 tons and demands placed on the department in the current year are expected to reach a total of over one million tons. India's sawmill equipment will be enriched by additional equipment which she will receive under Lend-Lease from America.



# EDUCATION—HEALTH—LANDS

## FIRST MEETING OF DRUGS TECHNICAL ADVISORY BOARD

Opening the first meeting of the Drugs Technical Advisory Board in New Delhi on November 2, 1942, Lieut.-General Sir Gordon Jolly, Chairman of the Board, referred to the proposed establishment of a Central Drugs Control Laboratory—"which is a primary injunction of the Drugs Act, 1940."

General Jolly also said the Government of India had asked "that the views of the Board may be obtained on the question of what other pharmacopœia, in addition to the British Pharmacopœia, should be prescribed for the purposes of standards of identity, purity and strength of drugs other than sera, vaccines, vitamins and similar products."

### General Jolly's Speech

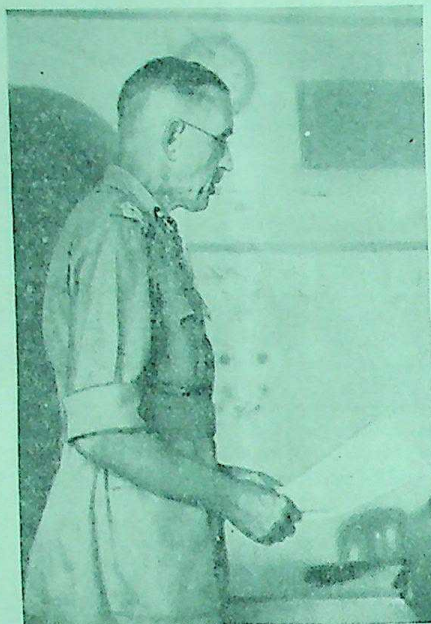
General Jolly said: "Gentlemen, in welcoming you today to this, the first meeting of the Drugs Technical Advisory Board, I would like to refer back to the Report of the Drugs Enquiry Committee presided over by my distinguished colleague and old friend, Colonel Sir Ram Nath Chopra, who, as the leading Pharmacologist of this country, has done more than any other man towards the formation of a sound scientific and ethical basis on which to build the drug industry of India."

"I would also like to pay tribute to those leading drug manufacturers of India who, like the great international houses, have refused to listen to invidious suggestions for the lowering of standards or to countenance the production and sale of low-grade pharmaceuticals."

"Following the Report of the Drugs Enquiry Committee in 1931, a long period of incubation ensued before the hatching out in 1940 of the Bill 'to regulate the import, manufacture, distribution and sale of drugs' which passed into law as the Drugs Act, 1940. Unfortunately, the implementing of most of the recommendations of the Drugs Enquiry Committee has taken place in an abnormal period when all other considerations have had to give way to measures essential for the prosecution of the war, and for this reason there has been considerable delay which could otherwise have been avoided."

### Biochemical Standardisation Laboratory

"You will be aware, however, that as far back as 1936 the Government of India, without waiting for legislation, proceeded with the formation of a nucleus of the Central Laboratory recommended in the Chopra Report, which they called Biochemical Standardisation Laboratory and which was established in Calcutta under the Directorship first of Colonel Chopra and latterly of his pupil, Dr. B. Mukerjee. This laboratory has been of the greatest value in carrying out much necessary work preliminary to the establishment of the Central Drugs Control Laboratory which is a primary injunction of the Act. I may add that the Biochemical Standardisation Laboratory has participated in the war effort by undertaking the testing of drugs and other medical preparations required by the Army."



LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR GORDON JOLLY, DIRECTOR-GENERAL, I. M. S.

"Another principal direction of the Act is the formation of the Drugs Technical Advisory Board. You will note that the object of our Board is 'to advise the Central Government and the Provincial Governments on technical matters arising out of the administration of the Act and to carry out the other functions assigned to it by the Act.'"

"Government have felt that a necessary preliminary to the administration of the

Act is the formulation of rules laying down the functions of the Central Drugs Laboratory and the various procedures and prescriptions required under sections 6, 12 and 33 of the Act. I hope that, when these Rules have been agreed upon, the Central Drugs Control Laboratory will come into being."

"It is the duty of Government under the Act to make these rules. Government have drafted them and, as prescribed by the Act, have called us in consultation to consider them."

### Letter From Central Government

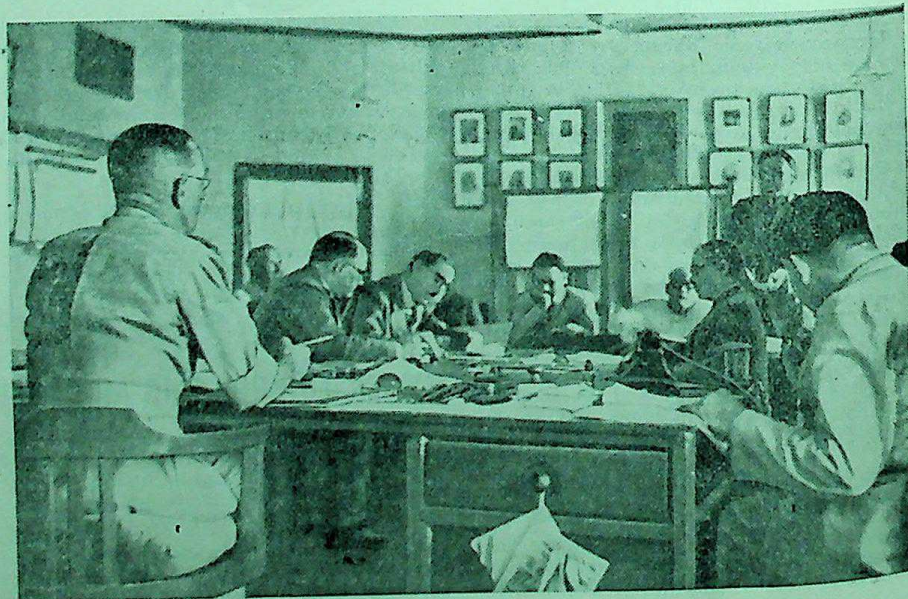
General Jolly then read a letter from the Government of India, which asked "whether the Board has any suggestions to make for modification of the draft rules before they are published for objections."

The letter also requested "that the views of the Board may be obtained on the question of what other pharmacopœia in addition to the British Pharmacopœia should be prescribed for the purposes of standards of identity, purity and strength of drugs other than sera, vaccines, vitamins and similar products. In this connection it has been suggested that the standards of all authoritative pharmacopœias should be recognised, subject to the condition that when the standard differs from that laid down in the British Pharmacopœia the name of the pharmacopœia shall be clearly stated on the label of the container."

In conclusion, General Jolly emphasised "the need to obtain a set of rules which will be acceptable not only to the Government of India but to the Provincial Governments on whom rests the responsibility for administering the Act within their boundaries. It is, therefore, hoped that these draft rules, amended where necessary on our advice, will be accepted as a model by Local Governments and adopted by them."

### BOARD'S RECOMMENDATIONS

On November 3, the Board concluded its discussion of the Draft Drugs Rules. The recommendations of the Board will now be presented to the Government for consideration."

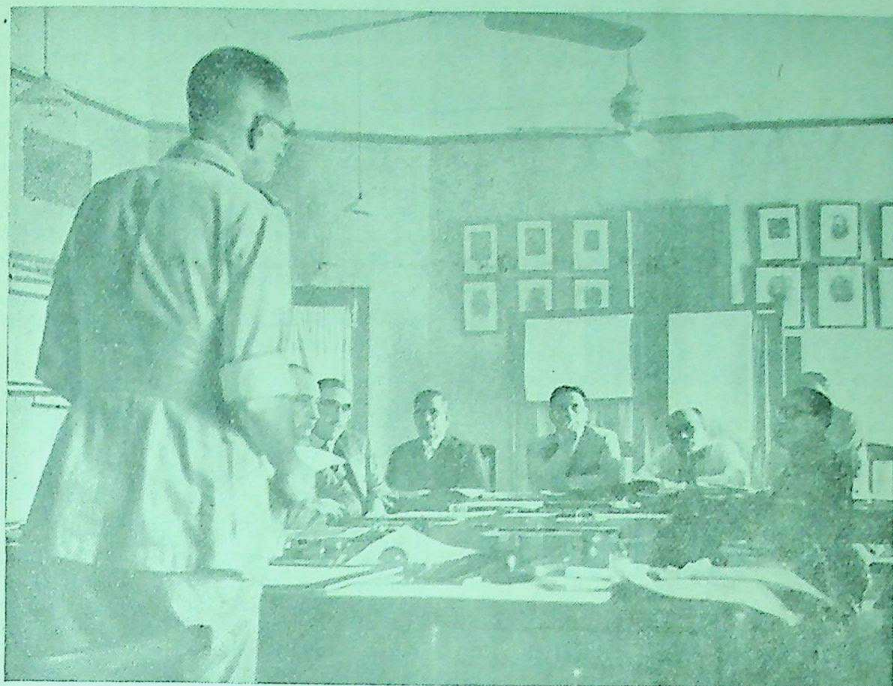


THE DRUGS TECHNICAL ADVISORY BOARD IN SESSION

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1942



# HEALTH



LIEUT.-GEN. SIR GORDON JOLLY ADDRESSING THE DRUGS TECHNICAL ADVISORY BOARD

After consideration of these recommendations, the Government will proceed to publish these rules for objections, if any, from importers, manufacturers, distributors and sellers of drugs. The Board was anxious that the Central Drugs Laboratory should be constituted by Government at the earliest opportunity, and it agreed to the functions of this Laboratory as laid down in the Draft Rules.

This Laboratory will analyse and test samples of drugs under the Drugs Act, will grant certificates of registration in respect of patent or proprietary medicines and carry out such other duties as may be entrusted to it by the Central Government.

The Board also agreed to recommend addition of the United States Pharmacopoeia to the Schedule of the Drugs Act, 1940, as a standard for drugs in India.

## Present At The Meeting

The following members of the Board were present :—

**Government Representatives :—**Lt.-Gen. Sir Gordon Jolly (Chairman); Major-Gen. Sir John Taylor, I.M.S., Director, Central Research Institute; Dr. Minett, Director, Imperial Veterinary Research Institute, Muktesar; Dr. Dunncliff, Chief Chemist, Central Revenues.

**Indian Research Fund Association :—**Dr. B. B. Dikshit, Haffkine Institute, Bombay; Mr. A. F. MacCulloch, Chief Advisory Chemist to Director-General, I.M.S.

**Nominee of Government of India :—**Mr. P. Das, Shillong.

**Indian Chemical Society :—**Prof. Bires Chandra Guha, Professor of Applied Chemistry, University College, Calcutta; Prof. Mahadev Lal Schroff, Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Benares Hindu University.

**Central Council of Indian Medical Association :—**Dr. Anil Kumar Sen.

**Branches in India of British Medical Association :—**Dr. S. Rajagopal Naidu, Chemical Examiner to Government of Madras.

**Secretary :—**Mr. A. F. MacCulloch.

## MEDICAL STORES SUPPLY COMMITTEE MEETING

The eighth meeting of the Medical Stores Supply Committee took place in New Delhi on November 4, 1942, under the chairmanship of the Director-General, Indian Medical Service.

The Committee discussed the production in India of certain coal tar derivatives, such as Aspirin, Phenacetin and Sodii Salicylas. The possibility of having these items made in India and of the plant and raw materials required were explored.

The manufacture of Agar, Atropine Sulphate and many other items was considered.

Owing to the difficulty of getting metal containers, the question of substituting metal by wooden containers was reviewed.



## PROMOTION TO MAJOR'S RANK IN INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE

The Government of India have decided, with the approval of the Secretary of State for India, that Emergency Commissioned Officers of the Indian Medical Service of 10 years' standing or more shall be eligible for promotion to the rank of Major. The period of 10 years shall include in addition to previous full pay qualifying commissioned service, any period of antedate that may be granted to an individual officer.

Credit for previous commissioned service and antedate shall be subject to a maximum of 10 years.

Hitherto only doctors recruited as Specialists among the Emergency Commis-

sioned Officers in the I.M.S. have been eligible for promotion to the rank of Major.

## Rank In Women's Branch

In their *communiqué* dated January 13, 1942, the Government of India announced their decision to recruit women medical graduates to the Indian Medical Service with relative rank only.

They now announce that officers so recruited will be granted commissioned rank from the date of their appointment in the Indian Medical Service in the same way as other officers of the Service.

## EXCHANGE OF RESEARCH STUDENTS WITH CHINA

During his visit to China in May, the Educational Commissioner with the Government of India discussed with the Chinese educational authorities various ways of strengthening cultural contacts between China and India. Among these was the possibility of the exchange of research students between the two countries.

As the outcome of these talks the Government of India decided to arrange facilities in Indian Universities and research institutions for Chinese research workers and, as a gesture of goodwill towards China and of admiration for the way in which Chinese education has been carried on in the face of great difficulties, to offer 10 free studentships tenable at such universities or research institutions as the Chinese Minister of Education might select. These studentships will be for a year subject to renewal in cases where a longer period is required to complete the specific study or research and will cover free travelling from Calcutta to the selected institution, the cost of fees and a maintenance allowance sufficient to enable the student to live in reasonable comfort.

The Chinese Government have now intimated their acceptance of this offer and are taking steps to select the holders of the ten free studentships. It is not known at present which institutions they will attend or when they will arrive in India.

The Chinese Government have at the same time offered to provide in their own universities facilities on similar lines for 10 Indian research students. It is felt that this offer will be warmly appreciated in India, particularly when it is remembered that owing to the Japanese invasion many Chinese Universities have had to migrate from their homes and are at present faced with special accommodation problems.

## GRANTS FOR RELIEF OF DISTRESS

A meeting of the Board of Management of the Indian People's Famine Trust was held in New Delhi recently under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh. Applications for grants submitted by the Governments of Central Provinces and Berar and Madras were considered, and it was decided to approve the grant of Rs. 30,000 to the Government of Central Provinces and Berar and Rs. 20,000 to the Government of Madras.

Permission was also given to the Government of Bengal to utilise, on relief of distress caused by a cyclone in the middle of October which hit the districts of 24 Parganas and Midnapore, the unspent balance amounting to Rs. 24,441-1-0 of grants made to that Government in 1941.





OFF FOR THE DAY'S WORK IN THE FIELDS

## FOOD DISTRIBUTION IN INDIA

### Sir Jogendra Singh's Address At Marketing Officers' Conference

"The marketing of pure products of such specifications as would appeal to consumers will, on the one hand, satisfy them and, on the other, bring the highest profit to the producer and to the middleman," observed the Hon'ble Sirdar Sir Jogendra Singh, Member-in-Charge of the Department of Education, Health and Lands, opening the Eighth Annual Marketing Officers' Conference recently in Delhi.

Sir Jogendra Singh said: "We have met today at a critical period in the world's history. The tentacles of trade which brought the world together and were moving men to share their products freely with each other have been rudely disrupted. Several streams that brought their products from other countries and carried ours in exchange have ceased to flow. We have been driven to depend largely on our own resources. And even these have been crippled to a large extent by transport difficulties within the country.

#### New Problems

"The situation has been further complicated by the action of various Provinces and States who in their anxiety to conserve their own supplies have resorted to the restriction of the even flow of commodities from one region to another. It is for you to consider the results arising from this situation, and to advise about the best methods of restoring inter-provincial and inter-state trade with the object of improving marketing facilities, and of securing on the one hand a fair deal for the growers and on the other the equitable distribution of food at a reasonable price to the consumer, including the civil population, the armed forces and our neighbours who have to depend on supplies from us.

"Then again an increased demand for certain types of goods and an increased flow of money have raised new problems of price adjustments. The marketing staff cannot lose sight of the question of prices.

It is a problem that needs close study in the light of the plight of the agricultural producers, who constitute three-fourths of our population. It must not be forgotten that in the fixation of prices, human values have to be considered; and the welfare of the people must be borne in mind. Again prices cannot be entirely divorced from the changes that may take place in the value of money. A higher price for agricultural produce, in so far as it leads to increased productive activities, would only mean higher incomes, increased consumption and an expanded trade. It is for you to study the problem in all its aspects and suggest a suitable formula for the adjustment of prices to the costs of living. As marketing officers, you are trustees of the interests of all the producers and consumers and it is necessary to see that they all get a fair deal.

"It has also to be borne in mind that we have to plan not only for our immediate requirements but also for the future, i.e. for the period which will follow the end of the war. There is need for increasing production in various directions; steps have to be taken to ensure that producers get a fair return for their labour, bearing in mind alterations in the value of money. Action must be taken to prevent a slump and arrange for stability of prices or at least for the prevention of wide fluctuations in prices and real incomes such as those which occurred after the last war and overshadowed the blessings of peace. Other countries are already taking action. The leading wheat producing countries (the U.S.A., Australia, Canada and Argentina) have already entered into an agreement with Great Britain providing for a relief pool of wheat and flour, aiming at smoothing out fluctuations in wheat prices. These and such other post-war problems deserve your anxious study.

"In the short period of eight years of your existence, you have made substantial progress. You have carried out

## LANDS

careful surveys of marketing conditions of some important products; the abstracts of these surveys should now be translated into Indian languages and distributed freely in our towns and villages. You have established standards of purity of our principal products. You have demonstrated the value of grading and formed 509 grading stations spread all over the country. They have graded and packed produce valued at about 141 lakhs of rupees. You have organised a skeleton intelligence service which is of great promise. You have succeeded in securing legislation for the standardisation of weights.

"These are great achievements for a Department still in its infancy. Remember your work has just begun; the possibilities of future development of your work are immense. You have yet to win the confidence of the producer and bring home to him the fact that pure products fetch a higher price; that separation of superior products from inferior is the object of grading to secure a better and more paying market. You have to train the producers to bulk their produce so that they may be able to grade more effectively and so share in the increased income from grading. You have to educate and encourage the middleman, who forms an indispensable link between the producer and consumer to modernise his business and to realise the need of placing his goods to the best possible advantage by concentrating on the sale of products of guaranteed purity and of such specific standards as may be most required and appreciated by consumers. I firmly believe in promoting co-operation between the producer and the trader and deprecate the tendency to ignore the age-long essential part in village economy which the village banker and the trader have played and will continue to play.

#### Agmark Products

"I hope that more producers and traders will welcome the Agmark as the hall-mark of purity and take to grading. You must see to it that those who handle Agmark products gain in prestige as dealers in pure products so that others may follow their example. The marketing of pure products of such specifications as would appeal to consumers will on the one hand satisfy them and on the other bring the highest profit to the producer and to the middleman. We must have Agmark shops under the supervision of local Co-operative Societies of producers, consumers and traders.

"I will not detain you any longer. Remember, it is generally hunger—hunger of the body and the mind—which changes our will to live at peace into will to war. Short stomachs make short devotion. By increasing production and securing even distribution of our products we serve our soldiers, sailors and airmen who are giving away their lives in far-flung battlefields. It is they who give us sheltered security. They are truly the makers of New India; they claim no sectional or communal privileges. They only know how to do and die.

"If the same spirit of sacrifice animates us all, and we steadfastly march together forgetting all sectional interests in this grim hour of India's destiny, we shall raise India into a Sovereign State. It will be in our power to guarantee four freedoms to all, to make the strong help the weak

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1942





INDIAN CULTIVATORS WORKING IN THE PADDY FIELDS

and the majorities serve the minorities. We shall then revive the traditions which gave the prince and the peasant, the rich and the poor alike security and justice, religious freedom and the enjoyment of all that men hold dear, regardless of caste or creed or colour.

"If we follow the example of our soldier sons who have learnt to live and lie together in death, and learn to live and serve together in peace, we can by the unstinted devotion of Hindus and Muslims alike raise India to a position of unparalleled prestige and power: a giver of gifts to all who help her to grow great, in abundance such as no separation or sectional division can ever guarantee."

The conference, which took place at Metcalfe House, Delhi, was attended by about 25 representatives including marketing officers from all the Provinces, except Assam, and from the States of Hyderabad, Mysore, Gwalior, Bhopal, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Bahawalpur, Patiala, Udaipur, Porbandar and Nawanganagar, as well as from Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara.

### CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

The need for centralised control over supplies and distribution of foodstuffs as well as over prices is stressed in a long resolution adopted at the Eighth Annual Marketing Officers' Conference which met in Delhi from October 26 to 28, 1942.

The Conference recommended the setting up of a representative central body, empowered to make recommendations to the Provinces and States and also to arrange priorities for the transport of foodstuffs from one area to another, and with a unified buying organisation for both civil and military requirements under it.

As the variations in the food control policies of various Provinces and States have led to certain abuses and difficulties, the Conference recommended a more uniform policy for the control of wheat and other food grains and made certain suggestions as to the method of fixing prices for different crops.

#### Closer Association

Another resolution recommended the closer association of Marketing Staffs (Central, Provincial and State) with the work of price control, civil supplies, organisation of transport facilities, etc. At present, the Marketing Staffs are supplying much useful information to the Departments concerned with price control, etc., but it is felt that they could be of further assistance in carrying out executive measures owing to their close and intimate contacts with markets and with producers, traders and consumers.

The difficulties in the way of grading and standardisation due to the shortage of certain commodities and of transport facilities were considered and also the possibility of co-operative marketing and grading through organisations of primary producers.

With a view to publicising the Agmark scheme, it was decided that rubber stamps bearing Agmark slogans should be supplied to local Marketing Officers for use on letter-heads, envelopes, etc. The Conference also decided that a film should be prepared showing the different stages of ghee grading and that subsidies should be given to shops which agree to stock Agmark products exclusively.

### NEW BOOK ON VEGETABLE GROWING

Useful information as to soil and other conditions in Delhi, the types of vegetables which can be grown locally and how to raise them is contained in a 29-page booklet entitled "Vegetable Growing in the Delhi Province" produced by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. A foreword by the Hon'ble Mr. N. R. Sarker explains the purpose of the publication which he recommends not only to the citizens of Delhi but also to Provincial and State Governments contemplating a food drive in their areas.

## CATTLE SHOWS AT PROVINCIAL CENTRES

Owing to transport difficulties in wartime the Executive Committee of the All-India Cattle Show Society, of which H. E. the Viceroy is the Patron-in-Chief, consider that for the present, instead of holding an annual cattle show in New Delhi on the lines of those held since 1938 or even large Regional Shows such as were held at Bhavnagar and Bangalore during the last cold weather, a large number of small shows should be organised at various provincial centres throughout the country. In consultation with Provincial Governments and States it has been decided to hold small cattle, sheep and goat shows, according to local requirements, in all the provinces of British India except Assam and Orissa. The scheme covers all the States where recognised breeds of cattle are found.

#### The 'Show Spirit'

The All-India Cattle Show Society will provide prize money amounting to Rs. 25,000 for cattle, buffaloes, sheep and goats and will also help in organising and judging at the shows.

## LANDS

Seven classes of vegetables are dealt with—beans and peas; tuberous and root vegetables; gourds and pumpkins; fruit vegetables; salad vegetables; leaf and stem vegetables and flavouring and seasoning vegetables. The appendix gives lists of seed-dealers and works of reference.

The booklet, which is priced four annas, may be obtained from local booksellers or from the Manager of Publications, Civil Lines, Old Delhi.

### "PECTIN" FROM TAMARIND SEEDS

How tamarind seeds may supply a product of great industrial value not hitherto made in India is indicated in a leaflet published by the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun.

Of considerable importance in industry today is the jelly-forming vegetable carbohydrate known as "Pectin." Besides being used in the manufacture of jams, jellies and confectionery, it is now employed increasingly for thickening and concentrating rubber latex as a filler for soap, for emulsifying perfumery and cosmetics, coating wall-paper and building board and in other industries.

Commercial pectin has so far been prepared as a bye-product of industries like the extraction of fruit juices (such as apple, citrus, beet) orange peel oil, etc.; this makes it difficult to start the industry in areas in India where fruit may be abundant but facilities for extraction are lacking. India has had, therefore, so far to depend on imported pectin.

The discovery of a very rich source of pectin in tamarind seeds, which can be easily stored and transported, points to a new and highly profitable use for what has hitherto been only a waste-product.

It is hoped that the new scheme will inculcate the "Show Spirit" in more people than would be possible at the All-India and Regional Shows held at three centres. A local show can attract many animals coming by road from neighbouring areas and interest small dealers and breeders who would not think of sending exhibits or of travelling to buy specimens at a show held hundreds of miles away.

The All-India and Regional Shows, as the Committee of the Cattle Show Society realise, have been a great success and have stimulated the improvement of Indian livestock in all important breeding tracts. That stimulus and interest in the breeding of pedigree stock should be maintained, not only to preserve the bullock power and milk supplies of the country, but also to enable India to help in supplying good Zebu stock to other tropical countries which may have been denuded of their cattle from various causes when the war is over. The All-India and Regional Cattle Shows will, therefore, be resumed as soon as conditions permit.



# EDUCATION—HEALTH—LANDS

## IRRIGATION ENGINEERS MEET AT POONA

To enable members to visit the Central Irrigation and Hydrodynamic Research Station, where model experiments of exceptional interest concerning rivers and canals are carried out, the Central Board of Irrigation held their recent annual meeting at Poona for the first time.

Among the models seen were a tidal model of the river Hooghly, which reproduces a series of tides and ebbs exactly corresponding with the Hooghly, and models of the Jumna river at Delhi, the Sone Anicut at Dehri (Bihar) and an automatic syphon spillway designed to discharge excess floods from reservoirs, with minimum rise of water level.

Visits were also made to the Lloyd Dam; the Experimental Effluent area where the best methods of growing crops on Poona sewage are investigated; and the Manjri Drainage Area, a waterlogged area near Poona reclaimed by land drainage and soil treatment.

### Discussion Of Technical Subjects

A number of important points were brought out in the discussion of 16 technical subjects at the meeting which was held from October 31 to November 6, 1942, under the chairmanship of Rao Bahadur L. Venkatakrishna Ayyar, Chief Engineer of Irrigation, Madras, President of the Board.

The "contracted entry" type of river training banks, constructed upstream of bridges and weirs, was criticised, the opinion being expressed that the upstream heads of the banks were more vulnerable to damage by floods than in the parallel and "diverging upstream" types, while the latter have the advantage of protecting a greater length of bank or railway.

An efficient and cheap design of temporary spur was reported from Sind. It was constructed of trees and was effective in protecting the river bank during a temporary attack, during floods. Such spurs had been constructed up to 2,000 feet in length, and were permeable, causing silt to deposit.

In the discussion on river model experiments, the significance of the silt and sand carried in suspension and along the bed was emphasised, as this was an important factor both in river behaviour and in reproduction in the model.

Considerable success in the compaction of soils for banks, roads, etc., was reported from the Punjab. The secret was the addition of exactly the correct quantity of water (which had to be found by laboratory test) and the use of a studded roller.

Other subjects discussed included the silting of reservoirs, design of distributory heads, land reclamation and rainfall runoff.

Mr. G. A. M. Brown, C.I.E., O.B.E., Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government, North-West Frontier Province, was elected President of the Board for the ensuing year. Mr. S. T. H. Munsey, Chief Engineer, United Provinces, was elected Vice-President.

### ACTIVE LOCUST BREEDING

Active breeding of locusts continued in almost the whole of Jaisalmer, several localities in Bahawalpur, north-western parts of Bikaner and western districts of Jodhpur State, during the first half of October. Breeding was light in Sind and Lasbela (Baluchistan).

Control work was not quite adequate in a number of localities, particularly in Jaisalmer State.

The westward migration of locusts has distinctly started and a number of small swarms penetrated Baluchistan, and there was rise in locust population in all the coastal areas of Mekran.

## ENCOURAGING STUDY OF ORIENTAL CULTURE

The need and importance of further development of the study of Oriental languages and culture in Britain, with special reference to India, was expressed by Lord Hailey at a joint meeting of the East India Association and the Royal Empire Society. Lord Zetland was in the chair.

Lord Hailey asked for support for the School of Oriental and African Studies (of the Governing Body of which he is Chairman) both from the British Government and from great commercial houses now seeking, in the words of the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, to build up a "merchant corps d'elite" specially equipped to visit overseas markets as sales representatives by knowledge of the language and culture of the country concerned.

Britain needed a centre, Lord Hailey said, where scholars from the East visiting this country could be sure of a welcome, where all cultural societies interested in the East could find a home, and where means existed for promoting in the British public at large keener appreciation of Eastern art than it could gain in the frigid atmosphere of the museums.

Mr. Amery and Lord Zetland endorsed the appeal of Lord Hailey. Sir Atul Chatterjee, Prof. R. L. Turner (Director of the School), Dr. Vesey Fitzgerald, Professor Jones (of the Chair of Phonetics, London University), the Rev. W. E. H. Organe (British and Foreign Bible Society), and Sir Frederick Sykes, M.P., also spoke.

## INDIAN ART EXHIBITED IN NEW YORK

India and China were represented at a New York exhibition of "sculpture of freedom" by two art works that a Chinese collector and dealer loaned for the occasion. These were two of the most beautiful exhibits shown. The Indian piece was an ancient bronze figure of a dancing Siva. The Chinese work was an ivory figurine of Lan Tsaiho, the patron saint of flowers.

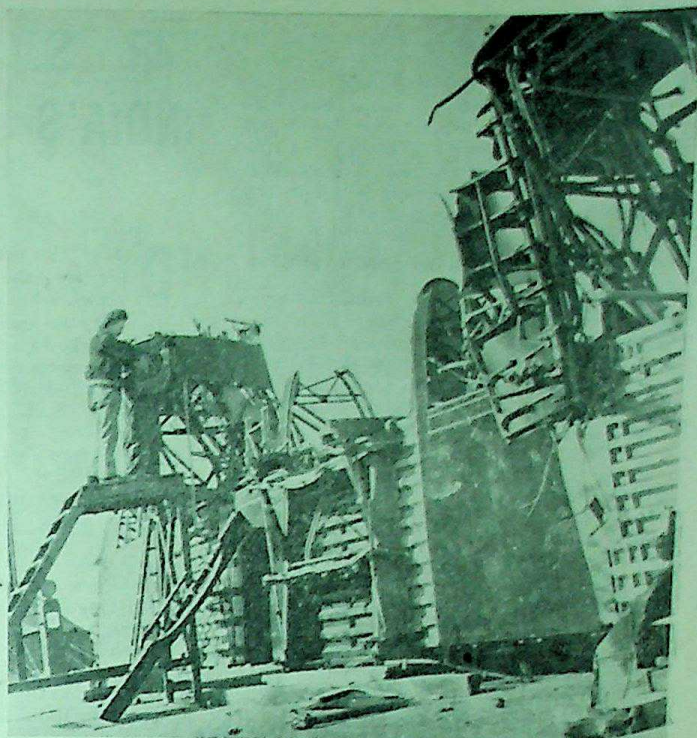
One of the American exhibitors, Paul Hume, was born in Korea. He is now in the United States Army in the Pacific area, but the New York City Works Projects Administration loaned his stone figure of a woman.

There were many examples of the work of United States sculptors. Some of them are members of the Sculptors Guild. The purpose of the exhibition is to carry out the idea and "demonstrate the rich and varied plastic forms that can evolve under free culture, and also to aid and encourage the growth of cultural unity among all people of the free world."



CHILDREN'S CORNER AT THE CENTRAL PARK OF CULTURE AND REST IN MOSCOW





BRITISH WOMEN WORKERS IN AIRCRAFT FACTORIES DISMANTLE DAMAGED PLANES FOR SALVAGE OF PARTS

## SIR A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIAR VISITS FACTORIES IN MANCHESTER

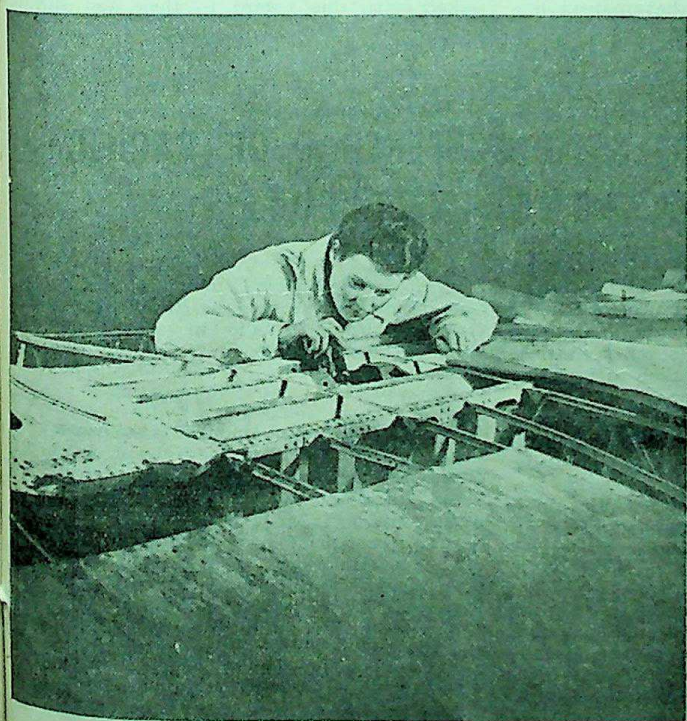
Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, one of the two representatives of India on the British War Cabinet, paid a two-day visit to Manchester in November to acquaint himself with conditions of English industry in that area because of its close associations with India.

He spent one morning at the Shirley Institute of the British Cotton Industry Research Association, where he was received by Sir Robert Pickard, Director, and Dr. F. C. Toy, Deputy Director, and later went to the Chamber of Commerce, where he addressed a private meeting.

Mr. Frank Longworth, President of the Chamber, entertained him to lunch at the

Midland Hotel. In the afternoon, Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar visited an exhibition of handloom and furnishing fabrics at the colour design and style centre of the Cotton Board, and afterwards met a number of Indian students who are undergoing technical training in Manchester district. In the evening, the Lord Mayor (Alderman Wright Robinson) entertained him at the Town Hall.

On the second day Sir A. Ramaswami spoke to newspaper representatives of the impressions he had gathered of the nation's war effort. He referred particularly to the keenness of the workers in the factories and to the spirit of confidence which prevailed as the outcome of the war. It was a matter



GIRL WORKER INSPECTS A DAMAGED PLANE BEFORE OVERHAUL AND REPAIR



SHE IS CHECKING AIR SPEED INDICATORS

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1942



of lively satisfaction to him that what he had been told of the war effort was true. Everybody in this country today faced the war not with stupid optimism but with silent confidence—"confidence born not merely of the capacity for work, or the capacity for winning the war, but of faith in more ultimate fundamentals which govern or ought to govern the conduct of humanity."

#### Improvement In Working-class Conditions

He added: "People have faith and are showing their faith in the eternal and unalterable principles of divine dispensation, and that is making them throw themselves wholeheartedly into the war effort. Spiritual foundation must be the foundation of any effort in this direction."

He felt that when victory was won—and victory would be won sooner than some of them imagined—the same faith would manifest itself so that the future of the world would be shaped better than it was a generation ago. Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar added that after the war there would be a recognition of the fact that the expansion of trade and a larger freedom of trade internationally were necessary for the world as a whole and he was confident that India would be prepared to co-operate in any scheme to achieve this. He was certain that post-war years would see an improvement in the working-class conditions in India no less than elsewhere.

Earlier in the day Sir A. Ramaswami visited a cotton mill and an aircraft factory in the north-west. He was accompanied by Sir Raymond Streat, Chairman of the Cotton Board.

#### AID FOR DEPENDANTS OF HONGKONG POLICE EMPLOYEES

The Colonial Office have decided to pay to the Hongkong police employees' dependants in this country 50 per cent of the gross pay of those employees of the Hongkong Police who remained in the island at the time of the Japanese occupation and who were unable to make provision for their families. Payment will be subject to adjustments against the pay and pension of the employees concerned when normal conditions are restored and will be restricted to dependants of employees on the pensionable establishment of the Hongkong Government. Applications from dependants who may be eligible for payment under the scheme, should give full particulars regarding the length of service of the employee, his pay in Hongkong, particulars of other assistance (if any) received, relationship to the employee in Hongkong, particulars of remittances (if any) previously received from him, etc., and should be addressed to the Provincial Government concerned through the district authorities.

#### Dependants Of Government Employees

The Colonial Office have also decided that dependants in India of employees of the Hongkong Government, who are now presumed to be in enemy hands and who were unable to make provision for their families, should be granted maintenance allowances on the same terms and conditions as are being given to Hongkong Police employees who remained in the island at the time of the Japanese occupation. Such persons are, therefore, advised to apply with full particulars regarding the length of service of the employee, his pay in Hongkong, particulars of other assistance (if any) received, relationship to the employee in Hongkong, particulars of remittances (if any) previously received from him, etc., to the Government of the Province in which they are resident, through the district authorities.

## SIR S. E. RENGANADHAN EXPLAINS INDIA'S PART IN POST-WAR WORLD

**D**espite the deadlock in India which hinders the fullest collaboration between her political leaders and her Government, the majority of her people are fully pledged to defend their country against aggression and to support the cause of the United Nations," said Dewan Bahadur Sir S. E. Runganadhan, former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Madras, and now Adviser to the Secretary of State for India, who is visiting the United States for a meeting of the International Missionary Council in Cincinnati.

Sir S. E. Runganadhan observed that India in this war was widely regarded by the United States and Great Britain as one of their allies, and her representatives were in the British War Council and on the Pacific War Council, while her soldiers were fighting side by side with British and American troops both in India and in Africa.

Great Britain was committed to granting complete independence to India immediately after the war, said Sir S. E. Runganadhan, and there was no doubt that when victory was won over the Axis Powers she would play a great part in all international arrangements in the post-war world as a free and independent country. India's peculiarly favourable geographical position would enable her to be the uniting link between Western and Far Eastern nations, and her central culture was bound to influence world thought and world civilisation in coming years.

#### Internal Problems

But, Sir S. E. Runganadhan emphasised, there were many difficult internal problems to be solved before India could play her full part in the post-war world. Poverty had to be abolished, a sense of citizenship transcending the decisive barriers of caste and creed had to be developed, a planned economy based on a new balance between her culture and her industries had to be evolved, and many evils that marred her social life had to be removed, so that her

social structure might rest on a foundation of justice, equality and freedom.

Fortunately, the leaders of the younger generation were men and women of forward vision, declared Sir S. E. Runganadhan. They were passionately attached to principles of human freedom and equality, and they were anxious to assist in the emergence of a new India based on a synthesis of the best in Western thought coupled with their own immemorial civilisation. India would be willing and eager to co-operate with all those nations in the post-war world who were prepared to eschew all discriminations based on race and colour, and who were anxious to establish world peace and unity.

#### CIVIL POSTS TO BE HELD IN RESERVE

Enquiries have been received by the Government of India from time to time from candidates approved for appointment to posts or services under the Central Government, by selection or on the result of a competitive examination, as regards their prospects if they take up war service before joining their appointments.

In order to ensure that such persons are not placed at a disadvantage as compared with those who seek civil employment only, and to afford them substantially the same opportunity to enter civil employment after the war is over as they had at the time of taking up war service, it has been decided that posts to which these candidates would have been appointed had they not proceeded on such service should not be filled permanently, but should be held in reserve to be filled by such persons on return from war service. It is proposed to grant to such candidates on appointment to civil posts suitable increments of pay depending on the merits of each case, and their seniority in service will also be determined with due regard to their age and period of war service.

## INDIAN DELEGATES TO CONFERENCE OF PACIFIC RELATIONS INSTITUTE

The Institute of Pacific Relations is holding a triennial Conference at Mont Tremblant near Quebec, Canada, in December. It is understood that on invitation from this Institute an Indian delegation will shortly be leaving for the United States. The delegation is likely to consist of Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, Sir Mohammed Zafrulla Khan, Begam Shah Nawaz, Mr. K. M. Panikkar, Dewan Bahadur Sir S. E. Runganadhan and Rai Bahadur Mehr Chand Khanna. It is understood that Major A. S. B. Shah will act as Secretary to the delegation.

The Institute of Pacific Relations is an unofficial organisation for the study and discussion of the problems of the Pacific area. It was founded about 20 years ago in San Francisco. Under its auspices is published the monthly magazine "The Pacific Affairs." It has constituent Institutes in countries with interests in the

Pacific. In the British Commonwealth these constituent Institutes are the Royal Institute of International Affairs in the United Kingdom and its sister Institutes in other parts.

Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar is the present Chairman of the Indian Institute of International Affairs and Sir Mohammed Zafrulla Khan its ex-Chairman. The Indian Institute of International Affairs has hitherto not been a constituent body of the Institute of Pacific Relations since India has not been regarded as in the Pacific area. But with the growing inter-connection of all countries and with India's commitments in the war with Japan it would clearly be advantageous to the Institute of Pacific Relations to have the views of representatives from India at any discussion which may take place on the future of the Pacific world.

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Her Highness The Princess of Berar (seated in the foreground) who recently appealed for contributions to the Christmas and New Year Gifts Fund, helps in the dispatch of gifts to men in the services

## LETTERS AND PARCELS TO PRISONERS OF WAR

There appears to be some misunderstanding as to how letters to prisoners of war in German and Italian hands should be addressed. The following methods will ensure that letters reach prisoners of war with the minimum delay.

If the camp address in enemy territory is known:—First line—Regtl. No. (in the case of other ranks only). Rank, name and initials in block letters. Second line—British prisoner of war number (if known). Third line—Camp address in full. Fourth line—Country.

If the camp address is *not* known:—First line—Regtl. No. (in the case of other ranks only). Rank. Name and initials in block letters. Second line—British prisoner of war in German or Italian hands (if known) C/o Agence Centrale des prisonniers de guerre. Third line—Palais du Conseil General. Fourth line—Geneva, Switzerland.

Envelopes should be endorsed "prisoners of war post" in the top right hand corner, followed by the equivalent word "Kriegsgefangenenpost" in the case of letters addressed to prisoners of war in German hands, and by "Service des Prisonniers de Guerre" in the case of prisoners of war in Italian hands.

### Free Of Postage

Letters sent by surface mail will be conveyed free of postage and should be posted in the normal manner. Letters forwarded by air mail are conveyed at a concessional rate of eight annas.

The sender's name and address should be written in English on the reverse side of the envelope. Letters should be written in English whenever possible but if written in Urdu, Hindi or other Indian languages, the letter should be enclosed in a cover and addressed to the regimental depot in India of the prisoner of war. There it will be translated into English and reposted. These covers addressed to regimental depots are conveyed post free and should be endorsed "Letter for prisoner of war."

Letters should not exceed two sides of a sheet of notepaper and should contain reference to personal matters only.

These instructions do not apply to letters intended for prisoners of war in Japanese hands for which separate instructions have been issued.

### FOR PRISONERS IN FAR EAST

As many inquiries have reached the Red Cross Commissioner expressing anxiety about the safety and progress of letters addressed to British and Indian prisoners of war in the Far East, it is notified that in the quarter ending with October the mail was despatched from India on 23 occasions; the mail has not been detained in India but the route followed runs via Iraq, Russia and Siberia to Tokyo where it is re-sorted and then it has to commence the further long and difficult journey to the Japanese occupied territory where the prisoners of war or civil internees are held.

Information has been received from the International Red Cross that, whenever possible, letters to Prisoners of War in the hands of the Japanese should be type-written in English, French or German.

In order to secure prompt transmission of letters, correspondents are advised to make every effort to comply with these suggestions.

### PARCELS

Efforts by individuals to despatch parcels to prisoners of war through other than authorised channels are unlikely to meet with any success, and may detract from our efforts to give all possible assistance to war prisoners.

Relatives and friends who endeavour to persuade persons in neutral countries to send parcels to war prisoners are damaging both the blockade, and the common interests of prisoners themselves.

The existing system, whereby a sufficiency of food and clothing is sent by Red Cross Societies, is designed to ensure the greatest safety in transmission of parcels, and the utmost fairness in distribution.

In all cases where relatives or friends desire to send parcels to captured men, the correct course is to enquire from the appropriate Red Cross Society what arrangements exist. At present it is not possible to send parcels of any kind to prisoners in Japanese hands.



# THE MILITARY FORWARDING ORGANISATION

**B**igger and better parcels may now be sent to troops serving overseas. Parcels which are too bulky to be sent by the Postal Service are now handled by a special Military Forwarding Organisation, which has been set up at Bombay and Karachi.

Whereas the weight of parcels which may be sent by the postal service is limited to 22 lbs. (25 lbs. in the case of Aden), the Military Forwarding Organisation will deal with parcels exceeding the above limits but not exceeding 56 lbs.

Parcels for despatch through this Organisation will be sent by rail to the Commander, Base Sub Area, Bombay (for troops located in Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Abyssinia, Eritrea, Kenya and Great Britain) or Karachi [for troops located in Iraq and Persia (Iran)] and will be addressed as follows:—

1st Line—"Number, Rank and Name."  
2nd Line—"Appointment or sub unit (Sgdn., Battery or Coy.)." 3rd Line—"Unit (Regiment)." 4th Line—"C/o. M.F.O. at....." 5th Line—"Through Commander, Sub Area,....."

In the blank space following "M.F.O. at" the words "Port of discharge Middle East" should be inserted if the parcel is intended for troops located in Egypt, Palestine or Syria; "Massawa" will be inserted if the parcel is intended for troops in Abyssinia or Eritrea; "Mombassa" for troops in Kenya; "Basra" for troops in Iraq and Persia (Iran), and "Port of Discharge U.K." for Indian troops in Britain.

Parcels for other than Indian Army personnel will not be accepted for carriage to the U.K. and parcels will not be sent to Dominions, Colonies, or foreign countries other than those mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

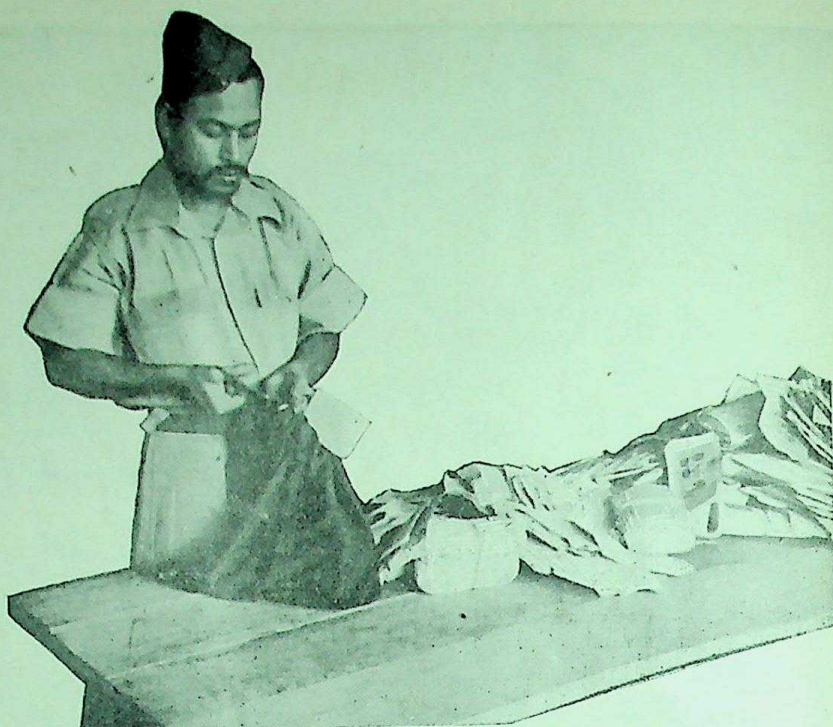
Parcels will be marked "M.F.O." by senders in red letters approximately two inches in height. Carriage within India will be prepaid by the sender, but no charge will be made for conveyance from the embarkation port to the destination overseas. Parcels will be carried at the owner's risk.

The railway receipt, together with a copy of the packing note or invoice, or, in the case of private parcels, a statement declaring the contents, will be forwarded to the Commander, Base Sub Area, Bombay-Karachi on the same day as the parcel is despatched.

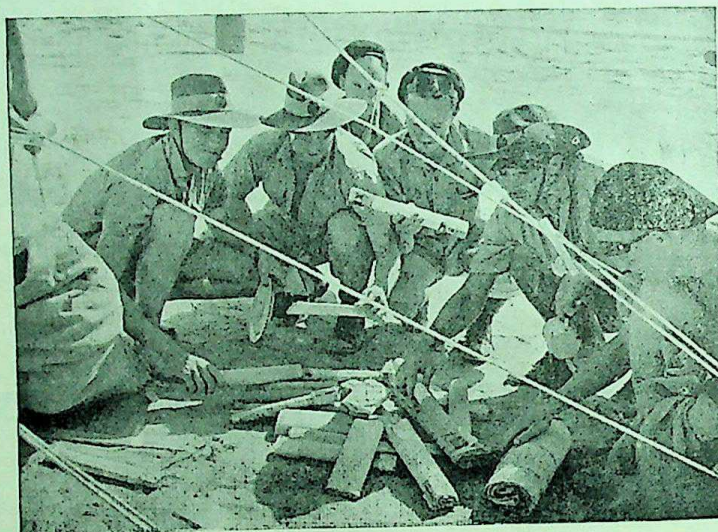
Parcels received by the Commander, Base Sub Area, Bombay/Karachi which do not conform to the above requirements will be returned to the sender "Freight to pay."

## REGISTERED LETTER SERVICE TO ABYSSINIA

The registered letter service to Abyssinia (Ethiopia), which had been temporarily suspended, has now been resumed. Registered correspondence for that country is, therefore, being accepted by Indian Post Offices.



SORTING LETTERS FOR INDIAN TROOPS OVERSEAS AT A BASE POST OFFICE



The Mail arrives—Imperial troops in the Western Desert get their eagerly awaited mail

## RECRUITMENT TO INDIAN ARMY POSTAL UNITS

**C**ivilian recruits are being accepted for employment as havildars in Indian Army Postal Units for the duration of the war, with a likelihood of permanent appointments in the Posts and Telegraphs Department when victory has been won.

Recruits, who must be between the ages of 18 and 25 (in special cases 30), will be enrolled in the Indian General Service Corps. During a training period extending over three or four months they will receive the basic pay of a sepoy, plus a training period allowance of Rs. 29 per month. Candidates, who undergo training as postmasters, will have their training period allowance increased to Rs. 44 per month after the third month.

### Educational Qualifications

Immediately they have completed their training, recruits will fill vacancies in war establishments of Army Postal Units. They will be granted the war substantive rank of havildar, and will receive pay of rank, plus grade pay. Candidates filling the

appointment of postmaster will receive grade pay at grade 1 rates. Clerks will be paid at grade 2 or grade 3 rates.

Minimum educational qualifications for employment in Army Postal Units is Matriculation, or any equivalent examination, but in exceptional circumstances these may be waived.

After discharge from the Army, personnel with one year's satisfactory service in the field will be eligible for permanent appointments in the Posts and Telegraphs Department. Fifty per cent of the vacancies in this Department are being reserved for such personnel. The condition of one year's field service will be relaxed in the case of those who do not fulfil it due to an earlier end of the war.

Prospects of rising to Rs. 300 per month, with free rations, clothing and accommodation, exist for capable men, and fuller details may be obtained from any Technical Recruiting Officer.

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1942



# COMMUNICATIONS

## FREEDOM TO LISTEN TO BROADCASTS

### Sir Frederick Puckle's Assurance

The assurance that there was no intention of imposing any general restrictions on the freedom of listeners to listen, for their own private entertainment, to any broadcasts they liked, was given by Sir Frederick Puckle (Secretary of the Information and Broadcasting Department) to a deputation representing the All India Radio Merchants' Association who expressed their concern about reports to the effect that in some areas radio receiving sets were being seized by order of Provincial Governments.

Sir Frederick Puckle added that it was quite another matter when listeners deliberately acted as Axis agents. While he had only seen newspaper reports, he had no doubt that the only persons who had anything to fear from such orders as Provincial Governments might have passed were those who used their sets for improper purposes and, by disseminating false rumours and instructions broadcast from Axis radio stations, aided and abetted the common enemies of India.

### COMMONWEALTH TELEGRAPH CONFERENCE

A conference will shortly be convened in Australia, to be known as Commonwealth Telegraph Conference. This Conference will deal with many new communications problems that have arisen as a result of the war and will be sponsored by the governments of the United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, India and Southern Rhodesia, as well as by the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Sir Campbell Stuart, who will preside over the Conference, has already left for Canberra for this purpose.

Sir Gurunath Bewoor, Secretary, Posts and Air Department, Government of India, will represent India.

### CONCESSION TO EVACUEE DEPOSITORS

Some Burma Post Office Savings Bank depositors have lost their pass-books or the receipts issued by the offices where the pass-books were handed over for transfer of account or were unable to bring these papers away with them. It has now been decided to authorise a cash refund in such cases as soon as a claim is admitted and not to issue a fresh Savings Bank pass-book. Evacuee depositors should address their claims to the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs (Burma), Telegraph Storeyard, Alipore, Calcutta.

### SUSPENSION OF COMMUNICATIONS WITH MACAO

Until further orders postal articles addressed to Macao will not be accepted by post offices for transmission.

Articles already posted to Macao will, if possible, be returned to senders.

### VISITORS TO INDIA FROM SOUTHERN RHODESIA

It is notified for general information that the Government of Southern Rhodesia have agreed to give consideration to cases where a visitor from that country to India, in possession of a certificate of identity valid for return within three years, is unable to return within the stipulated period and

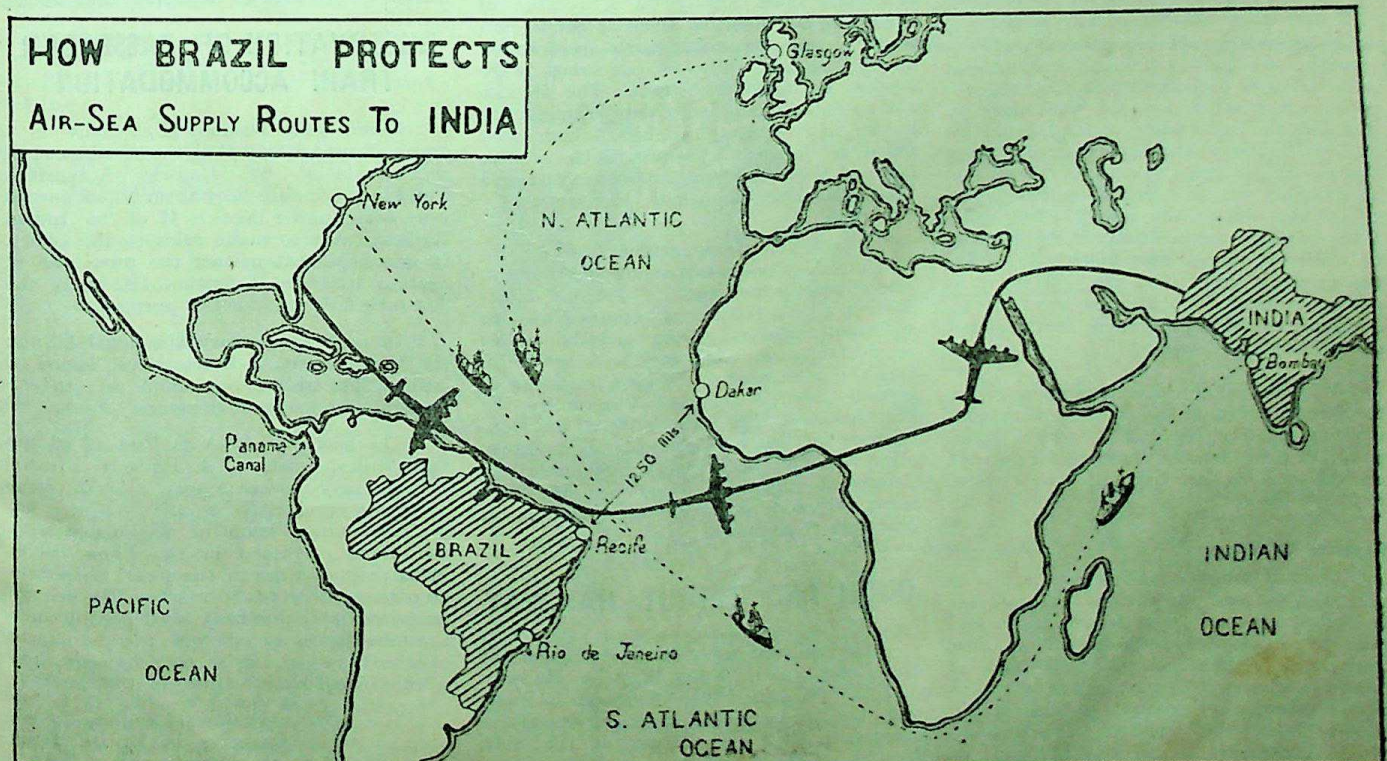
is faced with the possibility of the loss of his Southern Rhodesian domicile, provided the period of absence in excess of three years is not unreasonable and provided further that evidence is available to show that the inability to return within the prescribed period was entirely due to causes beyond the certificate holder's control. The last shipping facility available for return within the stipulated period will be a factor in this consideration and certificate holders will be expected to give satisfactory reasons as to why transport facilities which would have enabled them to resume domicile within the prescribed period were not taken advantage of.

Applications for extension of the period of validity of certificates, stating the reasons in full, should be made to the Provincial Governments concerned before the expiry of the period of validity.

### MOTORISTS AND THIRD PARTY RISKS

It is understood that Government are considering legislation for postponing the operation of sub-section 3 of section 1 of the Motor Vehicles Act relating to the compulsory insurance of motor vehicles against third party risks which was to come into force on July 1, 1943.

The conditions created by the war make it difficult for owners of vehicles and insurance companies to arrange for such insurance by the date originally fixed. It is learnt that the Transport Advisory Council which met recently was in favour of postponement and that all Provincial Governments are of the same opinion. The operation of the section will probably be postponed for three years but this will depend on the decision of the legislatures.





## COMMUNICATIONS

# RELIEVING PRESSURE ON INDIA'S INTERNAL TRANSPORT SYSTEM

In view of the pressure at present falling on the internal transport system of the country, it is essential that imported goods should be landed as near as possible to their ultimate destinations.

Importers will realise that under the present shipping conditions it is impossible to make any arrangement which will guarantee that any particular consignment will be landed at any particular port. In order, however, to enable the shipping authorities to load ships carrying cargoes from the United Kingdom to India in the most appropriate manner, and to secure that they will be directed as far as possible to the most appropriate ports in India, arrangements are being made as described in the following paragraphs.

These arrangements apply only to imports from the United Kingdom whether the goods have originated there or are being transhipped in or otherwise oncarried from that country.

In future, when applying for import licences for goods, applicants should state

to the best of their ability in which of the following three zones the ultimate destination of the goods in question lies:

(1) North-Western, comprising of Bombay Province, Kathiawar, Sind, Baluchistan, Rajputana, Central India, Punjab, North-West Frontier Province, Kashmir, Delhi, United Provinces, and Central Provinces and Berar; (2) Southern, comprising of Madras Province, Mysore, Hyderabad and Southern Indian States; and (3) North-Eastern, comprising of Bihar, Orissa, Bengal, Assam and neighbouring States.

Applicants for the issue of validation of licences for imports from other countries via the United Kingdom must make a similar statement.

### Goods For More Than One Destination

If the application covers goods intended for more than one destination, care must be taken to indicate the quantities destined for each zone; importers are, however, advised wherever possible to apply for separate licences for the goods intended for different zones.

Where a licence is granted, particulars thereof including the zone or zones named in the corresponding application, will be forwarded to the appropriate authorities in the United Kingdom.

Those authorities will be requested to arrange as far as possible that the goods are sent to one of the ports serving the zone concerned. This plan will secure that even if the goods are not landed at the port desired by the importer, they will be delivered at some other port not unduly distant.

This arrangement came into force from October 1, 1942. All applications for import licences must henceforth contain a statement of the zone concerned.

## EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN ON INDIAN RAILWAYS

To ensure that children were not employed on Indian railways in contravention of the Employment of Children Act, 1938, Inspectors on the staff of the Conciliation Officer (Railways) and Supervisor of Railway Labour carried out 600 odd inspections during 1940-41 and detected 135 cases of the employment of children under 15. Action taken by the Inspectors led to the services of the children being dispensed with.

The Employment of Children Act of 1938 goes beyond the requirements of the Convention adopted at the 23rd Session of the International Labour Conference prohibiting the employment of children below 13 as transport workers and fixes a higher age limit of 15 years. The Conciliation Officer in a note on the working of the Act states that, as the Act has come into force recently, its provisions are not widely known to employers, especially railway contractors. He is confident, however, that infringements of the law will in the near future be reduced to negligible dimensions.

## RESERVATION OF PASSENGER TRAIN ACCOMMODATION

Recently the Bombay High Court in a criminal appeal held that the reservation of accommodation by Railway Authorities could not be enforced by them unless powers were taken under Section 47 of the Indian Railways Act to make rules to this effect. It was held that neither the provisions of Section 109 nor of Section 120 (c) of the Act were sufficient for this purpose.

In order to remove this legal lacuna, the Government of India have issued a notification adding one more rule to the General Rules now in existence.

The new Rule (1-A in Part II of the said Rules) reads: "A Railway administration may reserve a seat, a berth, compartment or carriage, as the case may be, in a passenger train in accordance with conditions published in the Time Tables in force from time to time, and no person or persons other than for whom the accommodation is so reserved shall occupy such accommodation except with the permission of a railway servant as may be appointed in this behalf by the authorized officer."

The new amendment applies to all open lines of Railways in British India administered by the Government of India.

# RAILWAYS AND PAYMENT OF WAGES ACT

Eight thousand four hundred establishments inspected during a year to make sure that 850,000 railway employees, drawing salaries of less than Rs. 200 a month, are paid promptly and without any improper deductions from their wages—this in a nutshell was the work done by the Labour Inspectorate of the Conciliation Officer (Railways) and Supervisor of Railway Labour under the Payment of Wages Act in a single year. His Report on the working of the Act during the year 1940-41 shows that over 3,000 cases of delay in the payment of ordinary wages were detected. As in the previous year most cases of delay in payments related to the payment of increments, overtime allowances, leave salaries and officiating allowances.

With regard to deductions from wages, the figures given in the Report show that fines aggregating Rs. 15,217 were imposed in 21,792 cases, while deductions for damage or loss totalling Rs. 1,05,710 were ordered in 59,668 cases.

### Register Of Wages

Railway administrations were asked to refund fines and deductions for damage or loss in several cases where these had been imposed in contravention of the provisions of the Act. A few cases of failure on the part of paymasters to record cash recoveries on account of fines in the fines register were detected. The practice which obtained on certain railways of

fixing responsibility for loss or damage in certain cases jointly on a number of employees and debiting them in proportion to their respective salaries was held to be illegal and the railways concerned were advised to desist therefrom. The Report also notes that a number of debits, commonly known as "telegraph debits," had been found to infringe the provisions of the Act and the administrations concerned had been advised to discontinue the practice.

The Report draws attention especially to the difficulty in inspecting contractors' establishments for want of detailed information. The failure of contractors to maintain registers giving details as to employees, wages paid, etc., in a set form, and the total absence of such registers in certain cases, is commented upon by the Conciliation Officer who advised the contractors in their own interests to maintain a register of wages in English giving complete details of employees, wage periods, wage rates, wages earned, deductions, wages paid and date of payment.

## ODDH AND TIRHUT RAILWAY

The railway systems now known as the Bengal and North-Western Railway and the Rohilkund and Kumaon Railway will be amalgamated with effect from January 1, 1943, and known as the Oudh and Tirhut Railway (O. & T. Railway).



## COMMUNICATIONS

### EFFICIENCY OF PRODUCER GAS PLANT

#### Bombay-Delhi Tour In 3½ Days

A tour from Bombay to Delhi, on a motor vehicle fitted with producer gas plant, was recently completed by officers of the Department of War Transport. Particulars recorded during the tour demonstrate the efficiency of producer gas plant.

The vehicle used was a new light truck chassis of a well-known make with 122-inch wheel base. It was fitted with a special station wagon body having a well-known producer gas plant made in India built in.

The journey including side trips was completed in three and a half days with a total of 36.85 actual running hours at an average running speed of about 25 miles per hour. The stops on the road for refuelling and for cleaning the filtering and cooling system, which amounted to about 45 minutes in every 100 miles, added another 6.85 hours making the total time on the road, excluding voluntary stops, of 43.70 hours, thus reducing the speed to about 21 m.p.h. The engine was new and was not being driven hard.

#### The Route

The total mileage logged was 914 and the charcoal fuel consumed was at the rate of 1.5 lbs. per mile. The route taken was via the Igatpuri (Thal) Ghat to Nasik, thence via Indore, Shivpuri and Agra to New Delhi. All the Ghat roads and hills were negotiated on gas only.

Petrol was used to some extent for starting, the total consumption for the trip being only about 2½ gallons.

Some difficulty was experienced with inferior charcoal picked up at the roadside; but that was not serious since the journey was completed in three and a half days.

Without a considerable amount of night driving, it is difficult to do the journey in much under three days in a powerful petrol-driven car.

#### USE OF PRODUCER GAS PLANT IN PETROL-DRIVEN VEHICLES

By converting 600 motor vehicles to producer gas, it has been computed that it is possible to save one million gallons of petrol per year.

With charcoal selling at Rs. 2.12-0 per maund, a bus or a lorry, converted to producer gas and running about 2,000 miles per month, can show a saving of Rs. 200 per month. Such a vehicle running for this mileage at 12 miles per gallon on petrol, or one gallon per day when working on producer gas, saves the country about 140 gallons of petrol a month, or 1,680 gallons per year.

Steady progress in the conversion of petrol-driven vehicles to the use of producer gas continues to be made, the latest total number of such converted vehicles in India being about 7,000. Steel materials made available by the War Transport Department from its quota are being absorbed by manufacturers from the various stockyards from which the materials are available. As the stocks at the stockyards

become augmented, further progress is anticipated in the near future.

The question of providing steel material for the manufacture of producer plants for motor cars has received the attention of the War Transport Department. A certain amount of material licensed to makers may in future be utilised for the conversion of cars employed on official touring and by others whose work involves regular touring.

#### Suitable Charcoal Fuel

The important question of the provision of suitable charcoal fuel has been, and is, receiving the active attention of forest officials throughout the country. Work is in progress towards the provision of an easily portable type of kiln manufactured from reinforced concrete. In the United Provinces arrangements have been completed for distribution of high grade charcoal for vehicle use. Similar arrangements are being undertaken elsewhere.

The question of briquetting charcoal, so as to provide a supply of uniformly moulded briquettes, is under consideration. Particulars of plant have been received from abroad for implementing the valuable work which has already been done in this direction by the Forest Research Institute.

The examination of coke as a possible fuel for producer gas operated vehicles is being undertaken.

The ash content of wood and charcoal, which indicates the quantity of inert matter in the fuel, reduces, by that amount, the heat value of the fuel when used in the producer gas plants. Transport companies and motorists running cars on producer gas

are, therefore, likely to be interested in a leaflet published by the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, giving the ash content of 65 Indian fuel woods (from which charcoal is eventually derived) based on the examination of some 1,200 samples.

#### TRAVEL DOCUMENTS OF SOUTH AFRICAN INDIANS

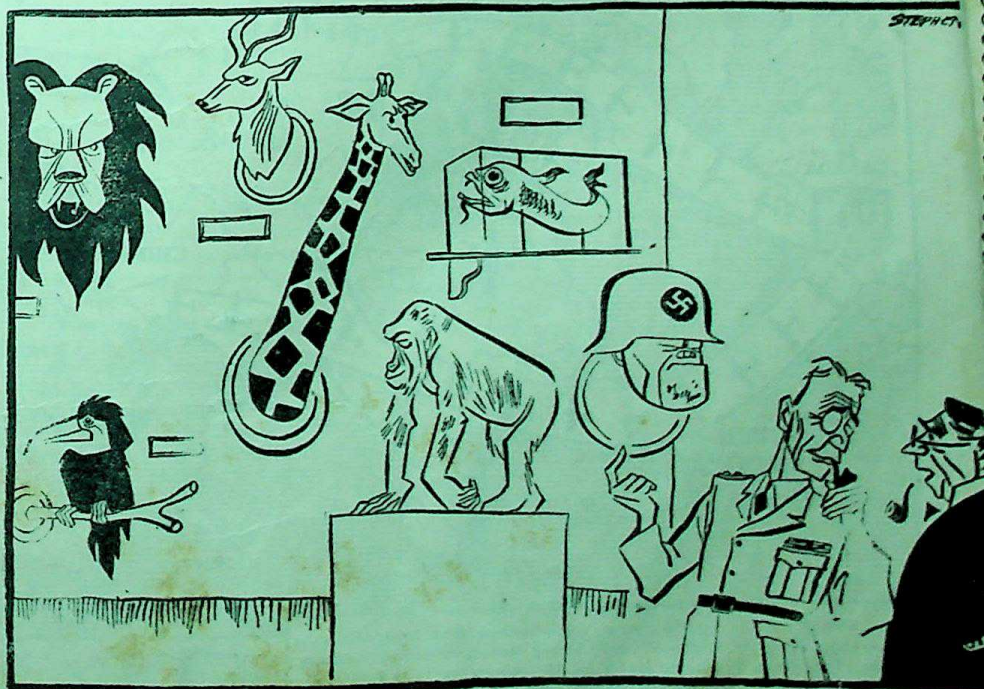
In August, 1940, the Government of the Union of South Africa agreed to extend the validity of the travel documents of South African Indians who were on visits to India and who could not return to South Africa within the period of the validity of their identity certificates, owing to shipping difficulties. The Union Government have now decided to extend this concession to South African Indians who came to India on temporary visits before May 1, 1942, and who have not been able to return as a result of causes arising out of the war situation. Applications for extension of permits, stating the reasons in full, should as hitherto continue to be made to the Provincial Governments concerned before the expiry of the period of validity of the identity certificates.

#### BURMA POST OFFICE CASH CERTIFICATES

Post Office Cash Certificates issued in Burma after its separation from India may be retained after their maturity at the option of the holders, for a further period of 10 years.

The amount payable from time to time on these Cash Certificates during the extended period would be governed by the same rules as apply to Government of India Post Office Cash Certificates.

These rules naturally also apply to Cash Certificates issued in Burma before its separation.



"THIS ONE? OH, I PICKED IT UP IN TOBRUK"



# COMMUNICATIONS

## TRUNK TELEPHONE CALLS

From November 1, 1942, the public has been provided with facilities to book "Fixed time" and "Subscription fixed time" trunk telephone calls of the urgent class.

A member of the public booking a "Fixed time" call is put through to the required number as far as possible at a specified time. A person booking a "Subscription fixed time" call is put through to a specific number every day, as far as possible at a definite time, for not less than five successive days. Before the new system came into force it was possible to book "Fixed time" and "Subscription fixed time" calls of the ordinary, but not of the urgent class.

### "Urgent Fixed Time" Call

"Urgent fixed time" and "Urgent subscription fixed time" calls should be booked as early as possible and at least two hours before the time when they are required by the subscribers. They take precedence over all ordinary and urgent trunk telephone calls which may be pending disposal at the specified time.

The charges for an "Urgent fixed time" call are the normal urgent rate for the call plus an additional 25 per cent of the charge levied for an urgent trunk telephone call over the same distance for a unit period of three minutes' duration. This additional charge is subject to a

minimum of twelve annas and a maximum of Rs. 4 and is halved in the case of "Urgent subscription fixed time" calls.

Under the new system ordinary "Fixed time" and ordinary "Subscription fixed time" trunk telephone calls do not take precedence over any urgent calls which may be pending disposal at the time when they are due to mature.

## BOMBAY-DELHI AIR MAIL SERVICE RESUMED

The Bombay-Delhi air mail service via Indore, Bhopal and Gwalior which was suspended during the monsoon has now resumed working. Planes leave Bombay on Mondays and Fridays at 8-30 a.m. and reach Delhi at 4-30 p.m. In the opposite direction planes leave Delhi at 8-30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Saturdays reaching Bombay at 4-35 p.m. the same day.

Inland letters, postcards and packets are accepted for transmission by this service on the usual conditions.

The bi-weekly northbound service connects with the Colombo-Karachi service arriving in Bombay from Colombo on Sundays and Thursdays, while the south-bound service connects with the service leaving Bombay for Colombo on Thursdays and Sundays.

## AIR MAILS FOR ERITREA AND SOMALILAND

Communications by air mail for the former Italian colonies of Eritrea and Somaliland are now accepted by post offices in India. Besides the usual air mail label, correspondence should bear the superscription "India-Eritrea" or "India-Somaliland." The air mail surcharge per half ounce on letters and packets is Rs. 1-1-6 in the case of articles for Eritrea and Rs. 1-4 in the case of Somaliland, while the total fee on postcards (including postage) is eight annas to Eritrea and nine annas to Somaliland.

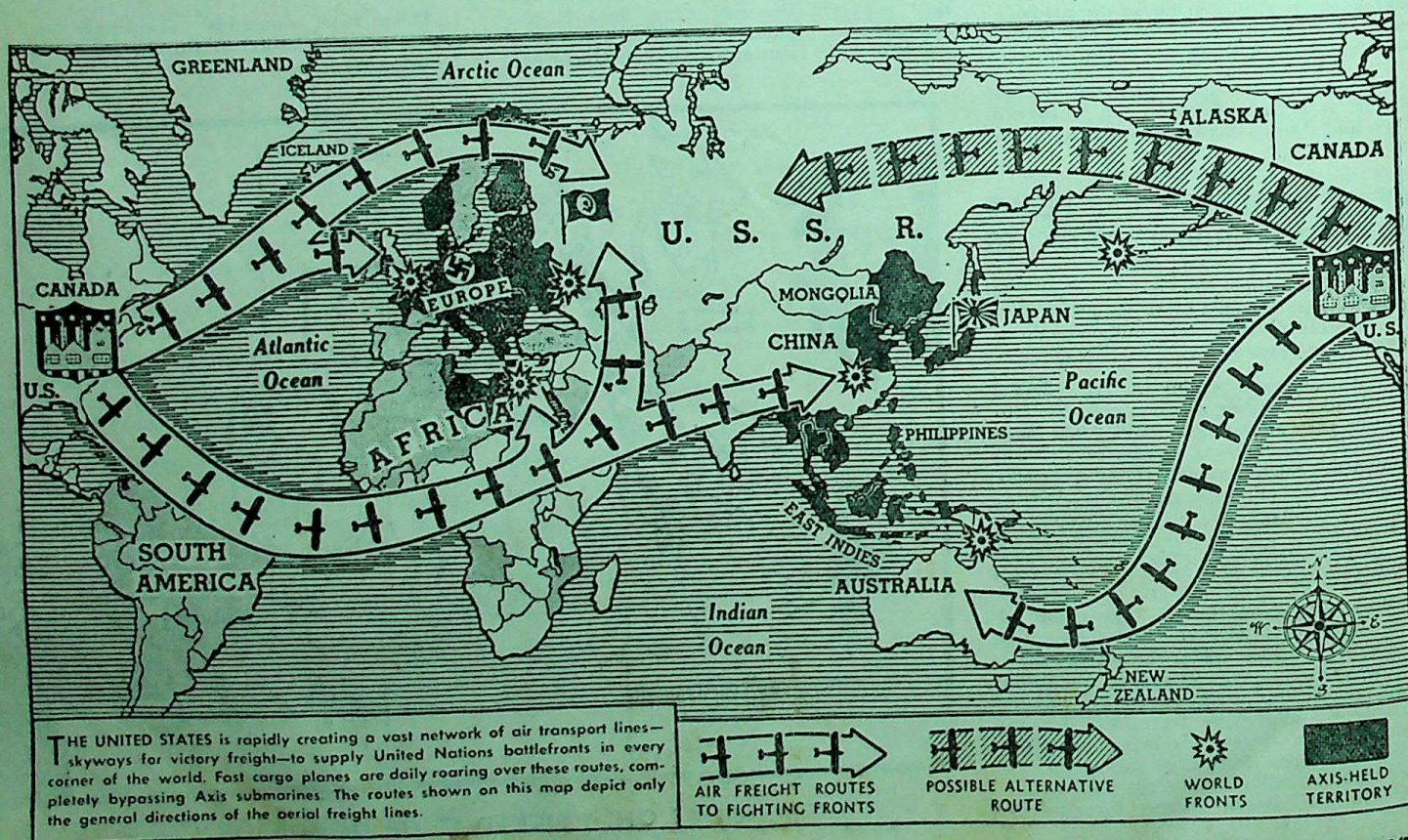
## AIRGRAPH SERVICE TO CANADA

The airgraph service to Canada via the United Kingdom now available for troops has been extended to the general public. The airgraphs are filmed at Bombay and enlarged in the United Kingdom for onward transmission to Canada by surface route.

The rate of postage for Canada is the same as for the United Kingdom, viz.: eight annas per airgraph from members of the public and three annas per airgraph from members of H. M.'s Military, Naval or Air Forces (including service personnel of Dominions and India) on active service or by personnel of British merchant ships or merchant ships of other nationalities operating under British control.

## Britain-Iraq Airgraph Service

An airgraph service for civilian use is now operating between Britain and Iraq.



INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1942



# "VANGUARD OF A UNITED INDIA"

## Sir Jogendra Singh's Address To I.C.S. Probationers

"The democratic form of Government, more than any other form, depends on the ideals which inspire the permanent Services who become the custodians of permanent policies," said the Hon'ble Sirdar Sir Jogendra Singh, Member for Education, Health and Lands, speaking at the I.C.S. Probationers' Camp, Dehra Dun, in November.

Here is the full text of Sir Jogendra Singh's address:

Long years ago, when hardly any Indian found admission to this coveted Service, Max Müller delivered a series of lectures to young probationers who were ready to sail for Indian shores on "What India Can Teach Us." I wish somebody as competent could speak with authority and tell us what the new world can teach us.

Times have changed. The war that is in progress marks the end of one epoch and the beginning of another. Men moved by new thought-currents aim at securing a new world charter of civil liberties, equal distribution of goods and a more equitable standard of living for all.

### Secret Of Success

I wish I had time to dwell at some length on the lessons to be drawn from the terrific turmoil of events which we are witnessing today, but I can spare only a few minutes. I feel I can only speak lightly on matters of general interest, and leave you to study and discover for yourself the truth of things. What we receive from others becomes our precious possession only when by a personal effort we make it our own.

I need not dwell on the traditions of the great Service which you are about to enter; its reputation has spread all over the world. The secret of its success has been that its members, in no sense supermen, have set up a standard of integrity and devotion to duty which has been rarely surpassed. These qualities which have such a glorious record of past achievement are no less essential in the future. No system of Government can run without an efficient Civil Service. The democratic form of Government, more than any other form, depends on the ideals which inspire the permanent Services who become the custodians of permanent policies. Remember you have not only to maintain the tradition of your great Service but to impose the same standard on your subordinates. They will be inspired by your example and their work will be in direct proportion to your own performance.

### Mandate From [Late Queen] Victoria

Your predecessors received a mandate from Her Late Majesty Queen Victoria in words never to be forgotten. It is well to recall her royal edict which ought to be inscribed in letters of gold.

"We declare it to be our royal will and pleasure that none be in any wise favoured, none molested or disquieted, by reason of their religious faith or observance, but that all shall alike enjoy the equal and impartial protection of the law; and we do strictly charge and enjoin all those who may be in authority under us

that they abstain from all interference with the religious belief or worship of any of our subjects on pain of our highest displeasure.

"And it is our further will that so far as may be subjects of whatever race or creed be freely and impartially admitted to offices in our service, the duties of which they may be qualified by their education, ability and integrity duly to discharge. In their prosperity will be our strength, in their contentment our security, and in their gratitude our best reward and may the God of all power grant to us and to those in authority under us strength to carry out these our wishes for the good of our people."

It was this policy which all public servants were required to carry out. I trust that when a National Government in India can speak in such terms, all controversies will die out and Government will stand as the custodian of all interests. It is in this hope that I feel confident of maintaining the integrity of India.

It was under the auspicious regime of the Late Queen Victoria, Empress of India, that a national movement was fostered by men like Alan Hume and countenanced by no less a person—if my memory serves me right—than the then Viceroy, Lord Dufferin. It was under the inspiration of the liberal policy which animated British statesmen, that the intelligentsia became eager to realise nationality and to rise to a position of equality in the British Empire. I wonder if some of you have ever read the speeches of Gladstone, the writings of John Morley, Frederic Harrison, Ruskin and Emerson and wandered further afield and made acquaintance with the Encyclopaedists of France.

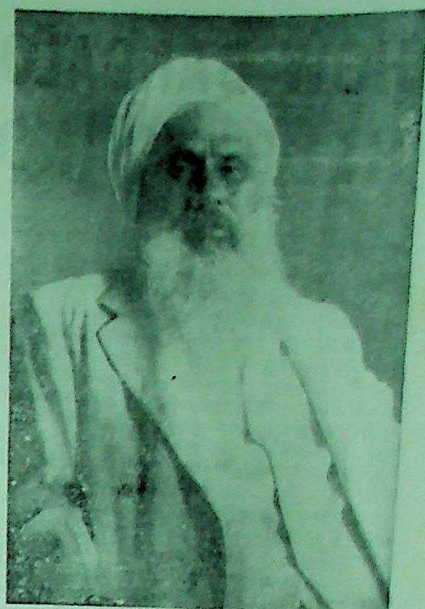
### Passing Phase

The Indian National Movement had the support of men like Mr. Jinnah, of the gifted family of Tyabji; the small Parsi community gave leaders like Dadabhai Naoroji, Phirozshah Mehta and Behramji Malabari. Indeed, if I may say so, the movement has been led by leading men of minority communities.

Then there came the change. The transfer of power to representative institutions was complicated by communal representations in the Legislatures and Services and the Government of India abdicated largely in favour of the provinces. This set the communal caldron simmering.

This dispersal of power on the part of the Government of India and the acceptance of communal cleavages have raised new and more difficult problems of administration into which I do not propose to enter. I can assert with some confidence that when all the countries of the world are seeking the ways of union, India cannot follow for long a policy of separation. This appears to me to be a passing phase, which, I am sure, cannot endure, for all communities will gain if India gains and all communities will lose if India loses. The "beggar my neighbour" policy has no permanent place in this, God's Universe.

Indeed, if India is to play a part worthy of her hoary past we shall have to weld



HON'BLE SIR JOGENDRA SINGH, MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, HEALTH AND LANDS

all communities together in response to growing spiritual idealism and the material needs for co-operation of the world. I am encouraged in this hope by the presence in this camp of scions of some of the ruling houses, which strengthens my belief in an All-India Federation.

We shall have to invest the Government of India with the sceptre of power, representing not this or that party but all the people of India, which can shelter majorities and minorities and give evenhanded justice to all. I realise that in this transition period your task will be difficult till you receive a mandate such as the Great Queen gave, but I see a new world rising from the ashes of the old after the war and the war must end:

*For the sword outwears its sheath  
As the soul wears out the breast.*

### Vanguard Of United India

It is a general weakness of us all, to complain of the age we live in, to murmur at our present conditions, to lament the past and to build a future of our dreams. These are processes of evolution, but as I look into the future, I see India rousing herself like a puissant monarch, shaking off parties and partisans of communal cleavage and standing up in all its might in the unity and strength of all the people, re-investing the Government of India with the panoply of power and the will to assert its sovereignty, so that Princes and people, majorities and minorities, under its protecting arm are guaranteed the full enjoyment of their rights. Who knows but that leaders of minorities may again form the advance guard and win for India a position worthy of her great resources in men and material. For I know our sons are second to none in intelligence and spirit of sacrifice. I see in you the vanguard of a united India. India expects you to do your duty without fear or favour. In following the highest ideals of your service you will win the confidence of all communities irrespective of caste, creed or colour and thus fulfil the divine duty of acting as servants of God on this earth.

### VENEZUELA SENDS RS. 3,333 TO INDIAN RED CROSS

The British Vice-Consul at Maracaybo in Venezuela has sent Rs. 3,333 to the Indian Red Cross.



# HOW BANGALORE CITIZENS ARE HELPING INDIAN EVACUEES

A fine example of how non-officials can co-operate to help Indian evacuees is provided by Bangalore, according to an account received from a recent visitor to South India. Public-spirited citizens have worked hard for half a year to provide about 3,500 more or less destitute Indian evacuees with a place to live in, financial help, clothing and even a hospital for the care of those who have contracted illness or disease during their long trek to safety.

Early this year it became apparent that Bangalore—an inland town with a good climate and an industrial centre where newcomers might find employment—would attract large numbers of refugees, especially South Indians, leaving Burma, Malaya and other countries affected by the war. Accordingly in March a committee called the Indian Evacuee Reception Committee, composed of Mr. Fred Harvey (Chairman), Mr. A. M. Ramamurthy Mudaliar, Mr. Mark Thangiah and Mr. John Spiers (Secretary), was set up and a group of workers was organised to meet trains, arrange for the housing of evacuees and help them generally. Acting as a liaison organisation between Government and the Indian evacuees, the Committee has had plenty of opportunities of helping both.

Evacuees arriving at railway stations are card indexed, given small loans if destitute (as they usually are) and sent to the Committee's office for further help. At the Committee's office they can get clothing and bedding (which they usually need); they prove their *bona fides*; and are assisted to obtain Government relief, medical help, educational and other facilities.

## Problem Of Housing

Housing was one big problem which the Committee had to tackle at the outset. Most of the evacuees being strangers and without means, the authorities were persuaded to allow a large choultry or rest-house—the Govinda Chetty Choultry—to be set aside for evacuees. This consists of several courtyards surrounded by rooms and shady verandahs, all set about a temple and with a pleasant garden. Being near the main railway station it is very convenient for new arrivals and now houses nearly 400 evacuees. Capt. A. Thangavelu Mudaliar, a well-known citizen, has kindly lent another choultry which houses 150 evacuees. As about 100 newcomers arrive each week, it is evident that much more accommodation will be needed and the Mysore Government are likely to sanction the use of more choultries in Bangalore City for the same purpose.

Some of the evacuees themselves are helping in the good work. Miss Stella Dawson, an Indian social service worker from Burma, now acts as Warden of the G. C. Choultry where she looks after the evacuee inmates, distributes clothes, helps to tend the sick and assists the Committee in every way possible. Evacuees who have worked in Burma hospitals are also helping to run a hospital set up for the benefit of their sick companions.

The story of that hospital and its organisation is worth recording. The evacuees reaching Bangalore have generally been in shockingly bad health—underfed and afflicted with various complaints, including dysentery and a malignant type of malaria contracted on the tiring journey from Burma. Local hospitals being already

crowded, it was almost impossible to get evacuees treated and the Committee decided to have their own hospital.

An appeal to the public through the Press and otherwise elicited a generous response. A large, centrally situated and well-built structure called the Jamat Khana, formerly used for Muslim weddings and other occasions, was secured. The public gave money, equipment and furniture to the best of their ability. Convinced of the need for an Evacuee Auxiliary Hospital, to care for sick newcomers and to control and examine newly imported complaints, the Municipality helped with a liberal donation for drugs and medicines and agreed to pay most of the salaries of the staff. It lent the services of two doctors and two women nurses and the ward boys; *ayahs*, cook, kitchen helpers, compounder, steward and sweepers were all recruited from among the evacuees themselves.

The opening ceremony was performed by the British Resident 30 days after the launching of the first appeal, but patients were actually admitted ten days before

the formal opening by which time 20 of the 30 beds were occupied and 50 out-patients were being dealt with daily. The Government of India have recently sanctioned funds to run the Hospital.

Gifts have come to the Committee from all quarters in various forms. An Indian dance recital brought in Rs. 700. An Art Exhibition realised Rs. 300. Money and clothing have been received from as far away as Karachi. Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetty sent a bale of cotton cloth and Mr. Venkatachallam, of Venkatachallam's Chutney fame, sent a case of enamel plates and tumblers for the Hospital. Evacuees have been helped to obtain about Rs. 27,000 and to secure work.

The Committee find that many of the evacuees, who include many clerks, mechanics and industrial workers, are able and willing to work and feel that they should not be allowed to cultivate the "dole mentality."

It is unfortunate, however, that some find difficulty in keeping jobs because of ailments contracted on their way to India. An Army officer's wife wrote regarding one whom she had engaged as a table boy: "The bearer... has honestly tried to work, but keeps on getting malaria and is unfit for a job at present. He is a good servant, keen and intelligent... He really has tried to work and has had to be sent home every time with bad attacks of malaria."

## COURAGE OF REFUGEES FROM BURMA

Moving tales of the courage displayed by refugees from Burma under appalling monsoon conditions and of the inspiring effect it had on rescue workers in the hills of Assam are contained in a report sent by a Calcutta firm to its London office.

One worker in a letter written on July 1 observed:

"The condition of the refugees now arriving (consisting as it does of 75 per cent women and children) is rapidly deteriorating. They all show definite signs of starvation and are in fact for the most part stretcher cases. The probable condition of those following is one of grave concern and no one could possibly leave here whilst any possibility of saving these heroic people remains.

### A Miracle

"I myself am not prepared to give the order to withdraw until every possible refugee is brought in. It is nothing less than a miracle how the people arriving during the past two days have made it.

"One woman arrived with seven children having lost one *en route*—the oldest of which was not more than ten years old.

"Another woman struggled in with a baby of ten days old and a little boy of five—the father having died several days ago.

"A man of 50 brought in a baby of six weeks—his wife having died a fortnight ago, and so on!

"We cannot let such people die... all we want to do is to save these people's lives and all Liaison Officers are willing and

anxious to stay on until the last possible moment.

"It was worth a great deal to see today's refugees—150 in number—to witness the help given—the swollen feet and legs washed and dressed, the sores and ulcers treated and bandaged—one man had walked in with the whole of his foot completely raw—the children and mothers fed with milk and sago—men given a hot cooked meal of curry and rice, how grateful they all were, the way the parents thought of their children first—the joy when the babies lapped up the milk and went to sleep—the laughter of boys and girls when they were served with a hot meal and shown a dry place in which to sleep—and the thankful relief when we told the old people that they would from now on be carried on a stretcher whilst the children would also not have to walk until they were fit.

"How well worth while this effort of ours has been and how well we have been served by Liaison Officers and T.G. coolies!

"Our reward is the gratitude of those we have served... who undoubtedly number thousands....

"One instance before closing. Dr.—went off this morning to bring in two cases we saw yesterday on the road. Finding another man with dysentery he carried him from—village to—camp himself and to appreciate what that means imagine carrying a load down the golden staircase—only this is just twice as steep."

Another worker, who was using elephants to help him in his work, in a letter dated

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1942



July 7 described efforts to assist another party, efforts in which the R.A.F. helped by dropping provisions from the air.

He goes on:

"As all the Mishmis are scared, we'll go through alone. I know X — has suggested I be relieved, but I was 104 degrees with fever the evening he left and am now quite O.K. again. Yesterday I climbed up a 100-foot cliff—and down again—which was worse! We are making a camp there, on the left bank of the same side as Sir—, so we will be cut off, but it can't be helped. Many thanks to all of you for sparing me. These towering snow peaks are laughing at us, damn them!

"My affairs are in chaos, as all my crates of furniture are lying unclaimed at the depot in Shillong."

## REGISTRATION OF EUROPEAN BRITISH EVACUEES

It is believed that many male European British subjects, who have been evacuated from Burma, Malaya and the Far East, have not yet registered themselves under the Registration (Emergency Powers) Act, 1940. The Government of India draw attention to the fact that registration of all male European British subjects between the ages of 16 to 50 within 14 days of arrival in India is compulsory.

The Registration Authorities are Commissioners of Police in Presidency Towns and District Magistrates in all other parts of British India, and all enquiries should be addressed to them. Those registered are required to inform the Registering Authority, with whom they have registered, of every change of address exceeding 15 days within 7 days of the change. It may be pointed out that failure to register or to intimate change of address is a punishable offence. The penalty will not, however, be enforced against people who complied with this notice within the month of November.

## EMPLOYMENT FOR EVACUEES

Male European British subjects coming to this country as evacuees from Burma, Malaya and the Far East are required by law to register their names, qualifications, etc., which are supplied to National Service Advisory Committees and considered for suitable employment.

No such scheme has hitherto existed for Indian evacuees. The introduction of a compulsory registration scheme for them is not contemplated but a scheme of voluntary registration is being introduced to give them an opportunity of offering their services. Under this scheme, which will operate forthwith, the Defence Department (Man-Power Section) will receive and register offers of service or applications for employment from any such evacuee. Applications for registration should be accompanied by full particulars of age, qualifications, experience and type of employment sought. The names of applicants will be communicated to Government Departments and to responsible private employing agencies who ask for them. The scheme is intended particularly for those possessing some technical, business or professional qualifications.

Government obviously cannot offer any guarantee of employment to persons registering their names. But it is hoped that the proposed scheme will help by bringing to the notice of prospective employers the names of persons suitably qualified for the kinds of employment which they have to offer.

# ACCOMMODATION PROBLEM IN NEW DELHI AND SIMLA

## Measures To Mitigate Difficulties

The expansion of offices in New Delhi has created, as was anticipated, a serious accommodation problem. This has been accentuated by delays in building new offices and quarters owing to shortage in materials and sickness among labour.

In order to deal with the situation a Committee was set up by H.E. the Viceroy, with the concurrence of the Executive Council, to make recommendations as to which of the offices which were in Simla during the summer could remain there without detriment to the war effort and which offices could be moved out of Delhi. The Committee was also charged with the examination of all questions connected with the provision of accommodation for those that have to remain in New Delhi and it is possible that the Committee may be made a Standing Committee to advise on all problems connected with office and residential accommodation.

The broad effect of the decisions taken on the recommendations of the Committee has been that the majority of the officers and offices located in Simla during the last hot weather will remain there. It is intended that the Headquarters of those who will under the new orders be stationed in Delhi or Simla should be Delhi or Simla as the case may be for the duration of the war.

### Recommendations Accepted

As a result of the decisions it has been found possible to effect a marked improvement in the situation, at the cost, it is feared, of serious personal inconvenience to some at least of the officers and members of the staff affected. The recommendations of the Committee have been accepted in a most public-spirited manner and there has been an almost universal readiness to make sacrifices for the common good.

In spite of the measures already taken, the situation is still difficult and there is an opportunity for those who have any spare rooms in their houses to help by taking in as many paying guests as they can for the whole winter season, or as a temporary measure until the situation improves with the completion of the building programme.

A serious difficulty in the provision of accommodation is the shortage of electric wiring, fittings and power. As regards the former, fairly drastic reductions will have to be made in respect of the lighting of offices normally used in day-light and possibly in residential accommodation as well. As regards power, the co-operation of all householders and others is requested towards reducing the load on the existing supply, particularly between the hours of 6-30 P.M. and 9-30 P.M. when the demand is greatest. Failing success in achieving economy by voluntary reduction, it may be necessary to ration electricity and to impose prohibitive charges for all power consumed in excess of the provided ration.

Measures suggested are:—

- (a) stopping of all fans during the absence of occupants from rooms;

- (b) no lights to be kept permanently lit;

- (c) the practice of servants of burning lights in sitting rooms, bed rooms etc. when they are empty should be strictly prohibited;

- (d) switching off refrigerators, etc., between the hours of 7 p.m. and 9-30 P.M.

- (e) every occupant should ascertain the electricity consumed in his bungalow, office, etc., for the corresponding quarter of last year and endeavour by strict economy to enforce a cut of at least 25 per cent.



## CIVIL DEFENCE

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 408]

In Bengal, the function of the Women's Organisation was limited to enrolment as Volunteer Wardens and members were only required to advise and instruct women residents of their respective localities on A.R.P. measures: they were not expected to be on duty at the Wardens' Posts or to patrol their sectors at the time of air raids or immediately afterwards. In Bombay, women were given instructions by A.R.P. Instructors and they then gave house-to-house lectures on their respective beats. In nearly all provinces a start had been made in bringing women into the Civil Defence organisation. The Purlah system naturally had complicated efforts in securing the co-operation of womenfolk in some areas.

### "Director Of Women's A.R.P. Services"

This was the framework upon which it was proposed to build a structure for the recruitment and training of sufficient members of the right type of women. In this, the assistance of all those among the existing Women's Organisations, which were ready to help, would be required. The contemplated scheme envisaged the appointment of a woman who would perhaps be styled "Director of Women's A.R.P. Services" and whose principal duties would be:

- (1) to assist at Headquarters in evolving the scheme for Women's A.R.P.;
- (2) to tour and help provinces to organise and stimulate interest; and
- (3) to draw into the organisation as many as possible of those existing Women's Organisations as are willing to help and make the fullest use of their assistance.

It might be necessary perhaps, as the scheme evolved, to appoint women Assistant Directors with Headquarters in various provinces. The scheme (as announced already) was placed before the Standing Committee of the Central Legislature which advises on Civil Defence and the Committee's views were being given active consideration.



# ARMoured CARRIERS AND MOTOR AMBULANCES FOR THE ARMY

A further cheque for Rs. 10,500, for the purchase of another armoured carrier for the Army in India, has been received by the War Department from the Commandant of the Officers' Training School, Bangalore.

In the past four months a total of Rs. 31,500 has been subscribed by the Staff and Cadets of the School for the purchase of carriers.

The officers and men of the Bengal Police have sent to H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund a further contribution of Rs. 10,000 through the Bengal War Purposes Fund for the gift of their 13th armoured carrier for the Indian Army.

The officers and men of the Bihar Police have sent a further contribution of Rs. 10,000 to H.E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund for the gift of their third armoured carrier for the Indian Army to be named 'Swain.'

## MOTOR AMBULANCES

More motor ambulances have been made available to the Army in India through voluntary subscribers.

The Commandant of the R.I.A.S.C. school for V.C.O.s, Bareilly, has sent a cheque for Rs. 6,550 for the purchase of two, and the Chairman of the Jubbulpore Ambulance Fund, Jubbulpore, has sent a cheque for Rs. 3,275 for the purchase of another.

The staff and other employees of the Gun Carriage Factory, Jubbulpore, have sent a sum of Rs. 3,275 to H.E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund for the gift of an ambulance car.

The gifts have been gratefully accepted by H. E. the Viceroy.

## THEIR MAJESTIES' X'MAS GIFT TO PRISONERS OF WAR

Their Majesties the King and Queen have given £100 (Rs. 1,333-5-4) to be spent on a Christmas present of books to Indian prisoners of war in Europe. These have already been despatched through the Indian Comforts Fund in London. This forms part of a gift of £500 for British prisoners.

## MORE GIFTS

A sum of Rs. 1,012-11-0 has been received in H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund through the Counsellor, British Legation, Kabul, as the contribution of certain Indian traders in Kabul.



U. S. FIELD SERVICE PERSONNEL WORK WITH NEW ZEALAND AMBULANCES IN WESTERN DESERT

The gift has been gratefully accepted by H. E. the Viceroy.

## Quetta's War Savings Week

Rs. 3,72,840 was the total achieved by Quetta's 33,000 inhabitants in a recent War Savings Week.

Quetta is believed to be the first town in Northern India to subscribe Rs. 10 per head in one week.

## Y.M.C.A. HUT IN SOUTH INDIA

H. E. the Viceroy has authorised a grant of Rs. 6,000 from his War Purposes Fund for the construction and equipment of a Y.M.C.A. hut in Southern India.

A similar grant of Rs. 5,000 has been made to the Indian Sailors' Home Society, Bombay, for the extension of its activities.

## BRISTOL'S GIFT FOR INDIAN REFUGEES

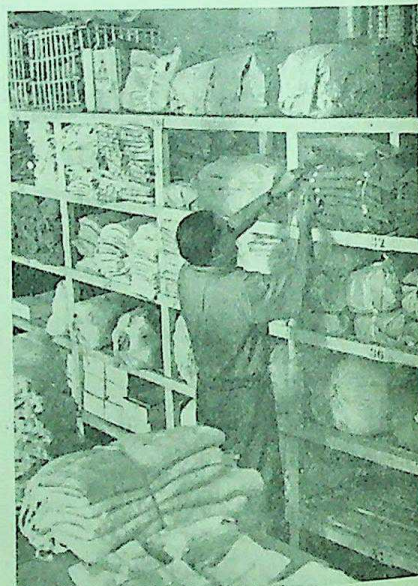
At a recent public meeting held in East Bristol, a collection of £44 was made for the relief of Indian refugees, and has been passed on to H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund.

His Excellency has gratefully accepted the gift.

## PARCELS FOR PRISONERS IN ITALIAN HANDS

Persons sending parcels to prisoners of war in Italian hands are warned that packages bearing the full address of camps will not be delivered and will be returned to the sender.

Such packages should bear only the number of the camp and reference should not be made to its location.



INDIAN RED CROSS STORES IN THE  
MIDDLE EAST

## C. P. AND BERAR'S GIFT

A further generous contribution of Rs. 69,322-12-0 has been received in H.E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund earmarked for the Indian Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Association from the Central Provinces and Berar Provincial War Relief Fund Appeal Committee. This brings the total of the Province's contributions to the Indian Red Cross to Rs. 4 lakhs which had been guaranteed by them for the year 1942.

H. E. the Viceroy has expressed his warmest thanks to the Provincial Committee for this fine effort.



## WAR FUNDS

### THE VICEROY'S WAR PURPOSES FUND

**C**ontributions to His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund during the fortnight ended October 31, 1942, amounted to Rs. 5,19,000 and expenditure to Rs. 26,667.

Total collections in the Fund up to October 31, 1942, came to Rs. 7,58,87,000, including interest realised on investments of cash balances, and total payments to Rs. 6,58,32,093.

Collections in the St. Dunstan's Section stood at Rs. 7,07,700.

A few payments of a miscellaneous character were made overseas during the fortnight, the important being £1,640 to the King George's Fund for Sailors.

#### EARLIER CONTRIBUTIONS

An outstanding feature of the payments made from His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund during the fortnight ended October 15, 1942, was that contributions during the period, aggregating Rs. 9,92,400, related exclusively to war purposes in India. No payments were made overseas.

Collections in the Fund during the fortnight amounted to Rs. 11,93,000. In-

cluding interest realised on investments of cash balances, total collections up to October 15, 1942, aggregated Rs. 7,53,68,000, while total expenditure in India and overseas came to Rs. 6,58,05,336. Collections in the St. Dunstan's Section stood at Rs. 7,04,900.

Important payments in India during the fortnight were: Rs. 3,00,000 to the Defence Services Estimates for the I.A.F., Rs. 23,000 to the Defence Services Estimates, Rs. 20,000 to the Central Woollen Comforts Fund, Rs. 6,24,000 to the Central Joint Committee of the Indian Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Association and Rs. 22,900 for purchasing motor ambulances.

During the fortnight ended September 30, contributions to the Fund totalled Rs. 7,76,000; expenses in India and abroad Rs. 4,27,933. During this period, Rs. 1,00,000 was paid to the Amenities, Comforts and Entertainment of Services Fund, for the equipment of Y.M.C.A. Institutes in the Middle East. The General Officer Commanding, Sind, District-Karachi, received a sum of Rs. 15,000 for necessities and comforts to Polish refugees arriving in India en route to destinations outside India.

Other notable payments were: Rs. 12,000 for the Amenities for Troops

Fund and Rs. 30,000 for the purchase of motor ambulances.

Among payments overseas, £17,550 were utilised for the purchase of aircraft for the R.A.F. The King George's Fund for Sailors received £1,850. A few other Funds received small amounts ranging from £10 to £310.



### DEFENCE LOANS

Subscriptions to the Third Defence Loan for the week ending November 14, 1942, amounted to Rs. 50,29,900.

The total amount subscribed to the Interest-free Defence Bonds up to November 14, 1942, was Rs. 3,02,66,000, and to the 3 per cent Defence Loans (including previous issues) Rs. 1,20,44,36,000. The total subscriptions to the Post Office Ten-Year Defence Savings Certificates up to November 7, 1942, were Rs. 6,11,75,000.

The grand total of subscriptions to all Indian Defence Loans since they were first issued in June 1940 up to the dates given above is Rs. 1,29,59,27,000.

Subscriptions to the Third Defence Loan for the week ending October 31, 1942, amounted to Rs. 35,09,900.

## WAR LOAN INVESTMENTS

This statement shows the amounts subscribed by each of the 11 Provinces, and by the Indian States and Centrally-Administered areas, to the Indian Defence Loans in August, 1942, together with progressive totals for each Province, etc:—

#### STATISTICS OF DEFENCE LOANS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 1942 (IN THOUSANDS)

AREA.	3% Defence Loans.		Interest-free Bonds.		Defence Savings Certificates.				Defence Savings Bank.		Grand Total.
	Subscription for August 1942 (Preliminary).	Progressive total to end of the month.	Subscription for August 1942 (Preliminary).	Progressive total to end of the month.	Sales during August 1942 (Preliminary).	Encashments during the month.	Net sales during the month.	Progressive (net) total to end of the month.	Deposits during August 1942 (Preliminary).	Progressive total to end of the month.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bombay ..	5,20,85	43,83,29	25	1,43,31	1,71	83	87	83,09	51	3,29	46,12,98
Bengal ..	14,04	41,11,22	5	38,88	1,22	1,02	20	78,87	35	2,34	42,31,31
Punjab ..	22,24	5,58,30	31	17,45	2,92	1,10	1,82	61,24	1,01	4,84	6,41,83
U. P. ..	4,00	4,48,87	26	11,23	1,22	91	31	68,06	15	3,14	5,31,30
Madras ..	3,76	4,30,81	..	5,53	87	45	43	32,82	19	1,14	4,70,30
Sind ..	2,11	1,38,87	†	3,35	1,43	11	1,32	16,92	9	77	1,59,91
Bihar ..	27	98,80	†	5,59	48	65	—17	34,20	3	57	1,39,16
Delhi ..	3,11	76,39	..	2,05	21	10	11	7,62	7	41	86,47
C.P. & Berar ..	3,13	34,63	†	1,39	73	34	39	20,98	7	57	57,57
N.-W.F.P. ..	8	24,21	†	1,30	13	5	8	6,51	4	29	32,31
Orissa ..	7	27,60	†	6	9	2	7	3,67	†	5	31,38
Assam ..	3,86	14,93	..	20	18	4	14	7,69	2	32	23,14
Baluchistan ..	66	18,43	..	57	22	3	19	3,68	1	29	22,97
Ajmer-Merwara ..	2	9,57	†	18	2	1	1	1,79	1	5	11,59
Coorg ..	..	2	..	..	†	†	†	16	..	†	18
Indian States and other Central Treasuries ..	78	2,85,53	8	67,84	73	41	32	36,06	11	1,59	3,91,02
Total ..	5,78,98	1,06,61,47*	95	2,98,93*	12,16	6,07	6,09	4,63,36*	2,66	19,66*	1,14,43,42*

† Subscription less than Rs. 500.

\* Includes subsequent adjustments of previous preliminary figures.



# PERSONALITIES

## Who's Who In Viceroy's Council—



HON'BLE MR. M. S. ANEY, MEMBER FOR  
INDIANS OVERSEAS

### HON'BLE MR. M. S. ANEY, SCHOLAR-STATESMAN

The Mahratta warrior chiefs who carved for themselves large kingdoms out of the disintegrating empire of the Moguls turned for councillors to a class of men whose education consisted in the study of the Hindu scriptures and who proved on the whole capable statesmen. Heir to their traditions today, one feels, is the veteran politician Mr. M. S. Aney, who entered the Viceroyal Cabinet in 1941 to take charge of the new Department of Indians Overseas and to become Leader of the House in the Indian Legislative Assembly.

Madhao Shrihari Aney comes of an orthodox Mahratta Brahmin family noted for its devotion to Vedic studies for at least ten generations. His very appearance is that of a typical plain-living Hindu student of philosophy. A short figure, clad in a simple long coat and *dhoti*, and wearing the characteristic headgear of the Mahrattas, he has to all appearances been untouched by Western influences.

#### From Teaching To Law

But like the Mahratta statesmen of old, in his make-up there is a blend of the realist with the idealist. An ardent nationalist, he gives place to none in his desire to see India free. Yet he has been prominent among those Congressmen who have worked to carry on the struggle for freedom within the framework of existing institutions. He has been a leading member of the Responsivist Party in the past and he now realises that the voice of Nationalist India must be heard in the councils of those who for the time being administer the affairs of the country.

Born in 1880, Mr. Aney after completing his studies at the Morris College,

Nagpur, was for a time a teacher at a school in Amraoti. From teaching he turned to law and from 1908 practised at the Yeotmal Bar in Berar where he has his home.

For very many years Mr. Aney has taken a keen interest in Congress politics. When quite young he came under the influence of the great B. G. Tilak. Later he became Vice-President of the Indian Home Rule League and from 1921 to 1930 was President of the Berar Provincial Congress Committee. He was a member of the All-India Congress Working Committee from 1924 to 1925 and from 1931 to 1934. He took part in the Civil Disobedience Movement about ten years ago and was for a time Acting President of the Congress.

Within the Congress his influence had been chiefly directed to carrying on the fight for Swaraj within the legislatures. He was a member of the Indian Legislative Assembly for Berar from 1924 to 1926, from 1927 to 1930 and from 1935 onwards. The associate of C. R. Das, Motilal Nehru, Lala Lajpat Rai and Pandit M. M. Malaviya, he held all along that the nationalist case should not be allowed to go by default in the Imperial capital. He was a member of the Nehru Committee which studied the question of a new constitution for India. He was Vice-President of the Responsivist Party and General Secretary of the Congress Nationalist Party in 1934, becoming Leader of the Congress Nationalist Assembly Group in the following year. He was the General Secretary of the Working Committee of a conference which came into being to fight the Communal Award in 1935.

His short, energetic figure, crowned by a Mahratta turban, has been familiar to observers in the Press Gallery of the Indian Assembly for many years as one of the stalwarts of the Opposition front benches. With eloquent gestures, and in a voice that rises in moments of excitement to a shrill falsetto, he has launched many a slashing attack on the administration. His responsibility as spokesman of Nationalist India was enhanced with the boycott of the Assembly by the regular Congress Group.

#### Plain Speaking

Naturally many were curious to see how the former "stormy petrel" of the Assembly would shape as a member of the Government. His utterances since taking office have shown that he has not hesitated to say what he thinks, when the occasion demands it. Those in the Assembly galleries who followed the recent debate on the present situation in India were startled to hear the Leader of the House declare that when he learnt of the decision to arrest the Congress leaders, taken by the Executive Council while he was on tour, he felt at first that the Government were making a colossal blunder. Mr. Aney went on to state how, later in his tour, he had evidence thrust upon him which led him, on second thoughts, to come to a very different opinion on the Executive Council's decision.

Another example of plain speaking was Mr. Aney's statement to newspaper correspondents that he felt that the British Government ought to make a move towards ending the Indian deadlock. He added that there were other members of the Executive Council who held the same view.

#### Simple Personal Habits

Of Mr. Aney's personal habits one can say little except that they are of the simplest. Of a studious nature, his favourite reading consists of works on Hindu philosophy. He has been a member of the Nagpur University Court since the establishment of that University and of the Benares Hindu University Court for some years.

Light entertainment of the modern type hardly interests him. Now and again when passing a cinema house he does drop in to while away the time or to treat a friend to a show. He agreed, when questioned, that the films could be a tremendous influence for good and that pictures of the type of "Tukaram"—the tale of a famous Mahratta saint—served a useful purpose. In his earlier days his interest in sacred music took him now and again to Indian dramatic performances.

"What is your hobby at present?" Mr. Aney was asked.

"I have none," he replied, "except this." He pointed to an open box on his table. "I am always chewing *supari* (betel)."



### SIR CHARLES A. TEGART

Sir Charles A. Tegart, former Commissioner of Police in Calcutta, has been put in charge of the Special Intelligence Bureau at the Ministry of Food to combat black market activities throughout Great Britain.

Sir Charles and his agents, working in the background, have already gathered much of the information which has led to the conviction of a number of black market racketeers recently. There is close co-operation between the new department and the Investigation Bureau under ex-Superintendent J. Sands and ex-Chief Inspector W. Barket, formerly of Scotland Yard.

This is believed to be responsible for the big drop in black market offences.

Sir Charles Tegart, who is 61, has served for 30 years in the Indian Police. He used to don Indian costume and mingle with India's most dangerous criminals. He was a member of the Council of India in 1932-36 and went to Palestine in 1937 to advise Government on Police Administration. He returned to London in 1939.



### MAJOR-GENERAL H. H. RICH

His Majesty the King has been pleased to approve the appointment of Major-General H. H. Rich, I.A., Commander, Burma Army, as Colonel of the 2nd Bn., 6th Rajputana Rifles.

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1940



## PERSONALITIES

### THE EMIR OF TRANSJORDAN

The Emir of Transjordan, **Abdulla Ibn el Hussein**, recently received the flag of an Air Commodore of the Royal Air Force.

He became an honorary Air Commodore last year and now holds the same rank in the R.A.F. as Mr. Winston Churchill.

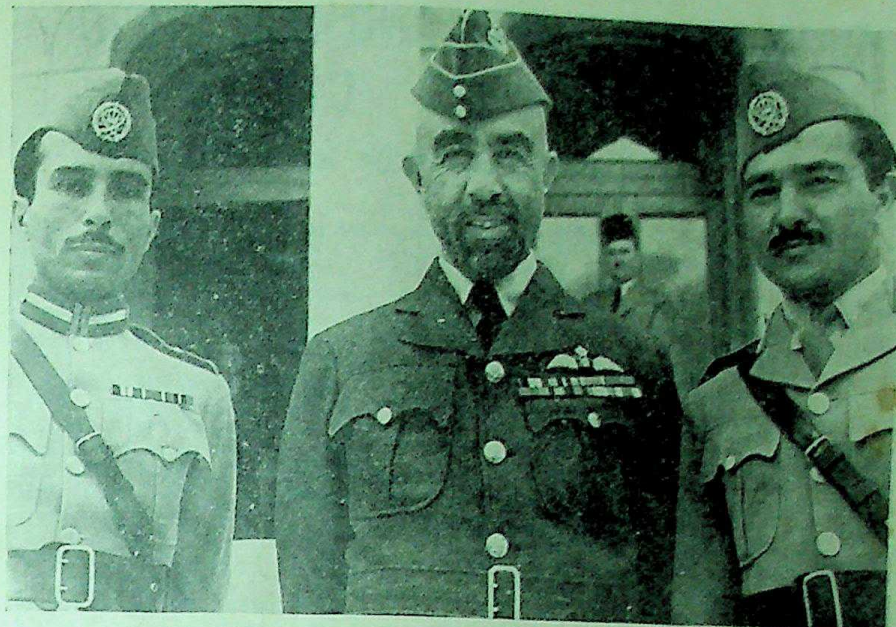
The flag, which was a gift from Officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the R.A.F. Station at Amman, was presented to the Emir by Air Marshal R. M. Drummond, Deputy Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Middle East. The ceremony took place in the throne room of the Royal Palace at Amman.

During the first world war and until the British captured it in September 1918, the city was the headquarters of the 4th Turkish Army. It is now the capital of the principality over which the Emir has ruled since it was established in 1921.

#### Prized Possessions

In 1916, when his father, King Hussein, raised the Arab rebellion against the Turks, Emir Abdulla was in command of the Southern Arab Army.

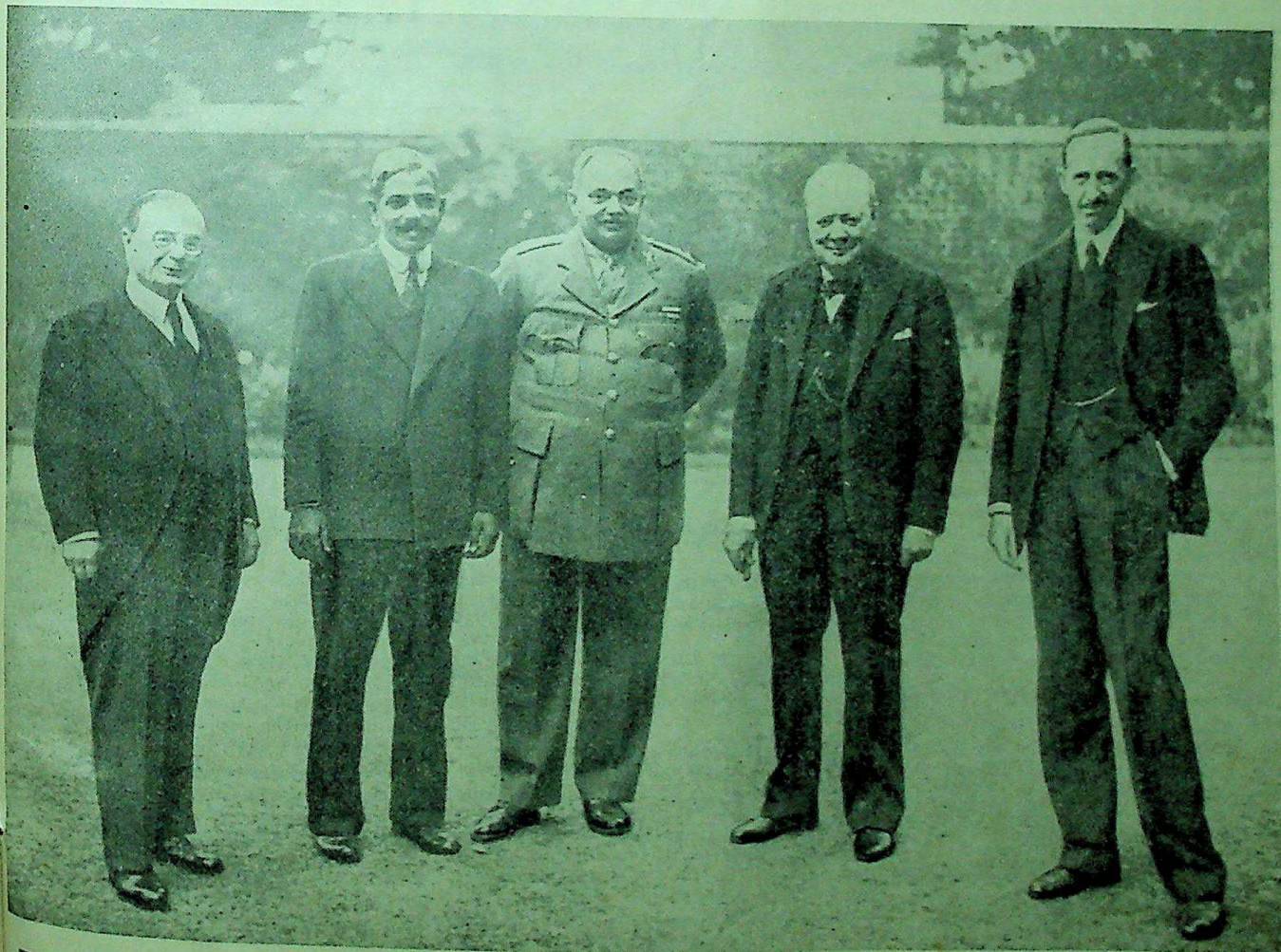
When he set up his camp at Amman, the 14th bomber squadron, the first bomber squadron to serve in Transjordan, joined him shortly afterwards and camped nearby. The present R.A.F. Station stands on the site of the Emir's old camp.



The Emir of Transjordan with his two sons, Emir Taler (left) who is a Lieut.-General in the Arab Legion, and Emir Nayef (right), who is a Brigadier

The Emir holds the British decorations of G.C.M.G. and G.B.E. and has visited England several times. He was a personal friend of King George V. Among his

treasures is a gold loving cup given to him by King George V. Signed photographs of King George V and Queen Mary are also amongst his most prized possessions.



The Hon'ble Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar and H. H. the Maharaja Jam Saheb of Nawanagar (second and third from left), India's representatives at the British War Cabinet, photographed with Mr. Churchill, Mr. L. S. Amery (left) and Lord Cranborne (right)

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1942



## PERSONALITIES

### BRITISH CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC MISSION TO CHINA

Careers Of Prof. E. R. Dodds And Dr. Joseph Needham

Professor Eric Robertson Dodds and Dr. Joseph Needham, two of Britain's most brilliant men are shortly going to Chungking as a Cultural and Scientific Mission to China under the auspices of the British Council and will be there soon after the recently appointed delegates, Lord Ailwyn, Lord Teviot, Mr. Serymgeour Wedderburn and Mr. J. J. Lawson who are representing Government on the Parliamentary Mission.

Professor Dodds, who followed Sir Gilbert Murray as Regius Professor of Greek at Oxford, is an Irishman. He was educated at Campbell College, Belfast, but has spent considerable part of his life in Birmingham, where he also held the appointment of Greek Professor at the University. His first interest in things Chinese began many years ago when in the British Museum he studied works of the greatest Chinese artists, poets and philosophers. Since those early days he has always wanted to see and understand China. His sympathies and admiration for Chinese culture are not confined to the China of the past, and he feels that the present struggle may well appear to future historians as a great and decisive turning point in the history of mankind.

#### Main Object Of Visit

The main object of his visit will be to study the field of education; the problems of Chinese education, he feels, are not unlike those that the British are facing in England and his aim of bringing learning into closer contact with life and of utilising talents that have so far been frustrated by lack of educational opportunity is, to his mind, one which is shared by both nations. He feels, therefore, that he must bring news to China of what British philosophers and poets are thinking and writing and how in Britain war has changed the ordinary man's outlook and mode of life. He believes that interchange of ideas and exchanges of students and teachers will lay the foundations of a closer cultural alliance between Britain and China and increase understanding between the two great democracies in the post-war world.

The Professor is 49 years old and claims his only recreation to be psychic research. He has published two distinguished works, one on neo-Platonism and the other on theology. He expects to be in China for about a year.

#### Dr. Needham

Dr. Needham is 41 years old and reader in biochemistry at Cambridge. His wife is also Doctor in the same subject, and together they have made many friends among Chinese students at the University. He was educated at Oundle. He has a great gift for languages and speaks fluent Russian and Polish, and has been described as "the only English scientist who can discuss Chinese philosophy in Chinese." As he sees it, the history of Chinese thought contains all elements familiar to the British in Western thought, and he compared it to a symphony played through on the same

fundamental theme but by a different composer.

He hopes that Sino-British cultural relationship may be furthered by his visits to Chinese universities, where he will lecture on the history of science in relation to the history of culture as a whole with special reference to East-West relationships. He also hopes to be of assistance in facilitating the provision of up-to-date books and scientific apparatus and feels that British scientists, going to China at this time, may legitimately be of help in exchange of information concerned with the contribution of science to the war effort of the United Nations. As Western science has never been more intensively at work than in the past few years, he is sure there will be much of value to communicate to the Chinese for further strengthening of their epic war effort, and is equally sure that the British may in return learn a good deal on both the technical and spiritual sense from a people whose great resistance and powers of improvisation remain unsurpassed. It is a source of great satisfaction to the Doctor that he will be attached to the Chinese institution of Academia Sinica (National Academy), where he will have the privilege of being associated with a tradition that goes back historically beyond the Roman Empire.

The Doctor's university appointments are very numerous and include those of Fellow at Genville and Caius since 1924, University Demonstrator in Biochemistry at Stanford University, California, Yale, Ithaca and Ohio. He has been Member of the Royal College of Physicians, London. Lecturer in Warsaw; Member, Societe De Biologie de France. He has published the following works "Science, Religion and Reality," "Man a Machine," "The Sceptical Biologist," "Chemical Embryology," "Adventures Before Birth," "Christianity and Social Revolution," "Background to Modern Science."

#### MR. H. R. VOHRA

#### Appointed Assistant Information Officer

Mr. H. R. Vohra has been appointed Assistant Information Officer in the Bureau of Public Information, Government of India.

He joins the Bureau from the Information Bureau, Punjab Government, where for over two years he worked in the capacity of News Editor.

Mr. Vohra started his journalistic career in 1935 when, after taking the diploma in journalism from the London University, he worked for about a year as District Reporter on the staff of the South London Press. His next appointment was on the "Civil and Military Gazette," Lahore, which he represented for about two years as special correspondent in Rawalpindi, Peshawar and Srinagar before serving as senior reporter in Lahore.

Mr. Vohra is an Honours Graduate of London University.



GENERAL SIR H. M. WILSON,  
C-IN-C., PERSIA-IRAQ COMMAND

#### GENERAL SIR HENRY MAITLAND WILSON

The decision to establish a new independent command in the Middle East to be known as the Persia-Iraq Command follows the recent strategic developments necessitating a general change in the Middle East Command. The 10th Army which hitherto had been under the supreme command of the C-in-C. of the Middle East Forces will form the nucleus of the new Command.

The appointment of General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, for sometime now the Commander of the 9th Army in Syria, as C-in-C. of the Persia-Iraq Command is in keeping with the importance that this sector has now assumed. A veteran soldier, genial, quiet and imperturbable, General Wilson has fought on many a battlefield since 1899 and has earned the reputation of inspiring courage, confidence and devoted loyalty in his troops. A member of an old Suffolk family, he was gazetted to the Rifle Brigade during the Boer War and has never since ceased to be a Rifleman. Having held the command of a battalion for the usual term, he is now Colonel Commandant, an honour which he shares with the Iron Duke. He served both in the Boer War and the last European War with great distinction and has given ample evidence of his capability as a General in Libya and Syria since the outbreak of the present hostilities. He was appointed G.O.C.-in-C. of the Army of the Nile in 1939 and was Military Governor and G.O.C.-in-C. of Cyrenaica in 1941 before he was entrusted with the Syrian Campaign which he so successfully conducted in June 1941.

General Wilson was one of the first men to experiment with the mechanisation of the army and was the first officer to command a completely mechanised brigade. Like Sir John Dill, he is a brilliant tactician with a vast amount of practical knowledge. He is most difficult to fathom or deceive. As a young captain he is reported to have said on a cricket field: "I have spread alarm and despondency among the enemy which you should always do." At 61 he still adheres to these tactics.

INDIAN INFORMATION, DECEMBER 15, 1941



## WEIGHTS, MEASURES—COINAGE—GLOSSARY—POINTS ABOUT INDIA

### WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Weights and measures in India vary not only from district to district but also for different commodities.

The principal units in all the scales of weights are the maund, seer and tola, and the standard Weights for each of these are 82.28 lbs., 2.057 lbs. and 180 grains troy respectively.

The Indian tola is the same weight as the rupee, viz., 180 grains troy; the standard or railway seer is equal to 2.057 lbs. while the standard or railway maund of 40 seers is equivalent to 82 lbs. 4 oz. 9 drams. There are numerous local variations.

### COINAGE—RUPEE IN DOLLARS AND POUNDS

Re. 1 is approximately 1sh. 6d. or 30.05 cents.  
 Rs. 100 are approximately £7/9/6 or \$30.05.  
 Rs. 1,000 are approximately £74/14/10 or \$300.53.  
 Rs. 1,00,000 (a lakh) are approximately £7,473/19/2 or \$30,053.  
 Rs. 1,00,00,000 (a crore) are approximately £747,395/16/3 or \$3,005,259.  
 100,000 is one lakh (1,00,000)  
 10,00,000 is one crore (1,00,00,000)

#### COINAGE

3 pies are 1 pice.  
 4 pice are 1 anna.  
 16 annas are 1 rupee.

### GLOSSARY OF SOME COMMON INDIAN TERMS

Abkari	Excise.
Ahlmsa	Non-violence.
Akhbar	Newspaper.
Amir (or Emir)	Nobleman; Chief.
Anjuman	Association; gathering.
Badmash	A bad character; a ruffian.
Bahadur	Brave; Heroic; a title.
Bajra (or Bajri)	Millet.
Begum	A lady of high family; a Princess.
Bhang	Hemp leaf (used as an intoxicant).
Bharat	India.
Blgha	A measure of land (about a third of an acre).
Bund	Embankment.
Bustee	Slum; collection of huts.
Chapati	Unleavened bread made in thin flat cakes.
Chaprassi	Orderly; bearer.
Charka (or Charkha)	A spinning wheel.
Charpoy	A bedstead with a mattress made of woven rope or tape.
Chowkidar	A village policeman.
Dak	Post; mail.
Dal	Pulses.
Dewan	Prime Minister to an Indian Chief; a title.
Durbar	A ceremonial court; a levee.
Durwan	A door-keeper; a commissioner.
Fakir; Sadhu	Mendicant; fakir generally to Muslims.
Ghee	Clarified butter.
Godown	Store-room; warehouse.
Goonda	A ruffian; a bad character.
Grantha Sahab	Sikhs' Bible or Book of Prophets.
Gur	Crude sugar.
Guru	A Hindu religious preceptor.
Haj	A pilgrimage by a Muslim to Mecca. (Hence 'Haji,' one who has performed the Haj.)
Hariljan	Untouchables (brought into current use by Mr. Gandhi; literal meaning "people of God").
Hundi	A bill of exchange; a draft.
Imam	The leader in Muslim prayer.
Jagir	Land given by Government as reward. (Hence 'Jagirdar,' holder of a jagir).
Jamadar	Indian officer in the army or police (lowest rank).
Jirga (or Jirgah)	A council of tribal elders (especially of the Frontier clans or tribes).
Jogi (Yogi)	A Hindu ascetic.
Jowar	Millet (the large species).
Khadi (or Khaddar)	Cloth made on a handloom from hand-spun yarn.
Khalsa	Lit. 'pure,' 'society of the pure,' founded by Guru Govind Singh, is now equivalent to the Sikh community.
Khan	A Pathan chief or nobleman; a Pathan title.
Khas	Personal; private; reserved; state-owned.
Kisan	An agriculturist; a farmer.
Kutchia	Raw; green; unripe; inefficient; irregular; unfinished.

### POINTS ABOUT INDIA

Viceroy—H. E. The Marquess of Linlithgow, K.T., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., O.B.E., D.L., T.D.



#### MEMBERS OF THE VICEROY'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

His Excellency General Sir Archibald Percival Wavell, G.C.B., C.M.G., M.C., British Service, Commander-in-Chief in India (War).

The Hon'ble Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E. (Defence).

The Hon'ble Mr. Nalini Ranjan Sarker (Commerce).

The Hon'ble Sir Hormusji P. Mody, K.B.E. (Supply).

The Hon'ble Sir Sultan Ahmed (Law).

The Hon'ble Sir Reginald Maxwell, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S. (Home).

The Hon'ble Dewan Bahadur Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar (India's Representative at the British War Cabinet and on the Pacific War Council in London).

The Hon'ble Dr. B. R. Ambedkar (Labour).

The Hon'ble Sir E. C. Benthall (War Transport).

The Hon'ble Sir Jeremy Raisman, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S. (Finance).

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Sir Mohammad Usman, K.C.I.E. (Posts and Air).

The Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney (Indians Overseas).

The Hon'ble Sir J. P. Srivastava, K.B.E. (Civil Defence).

The Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh (Education, Health and Lands).

#### PROVINCES AND GOVERNORS:

ASSAM: H. E. Sir Andrew Clow, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.

BENGAL: H. E. Sir John Arthur Herbert, G.C.I.E.

BIHAR: H. E. Sir Thomas Alexander Stewart, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.C.S.

BOMBAY: H. E. Sir Lawrence Roger Lumley, G.C.I.E., T.D.

CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR: H. E. Sir Henry Joseph Twynham, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.

MADRAS: H. E. Sir Arthur Oswald J. Hope, G.C.I.E., M.C.

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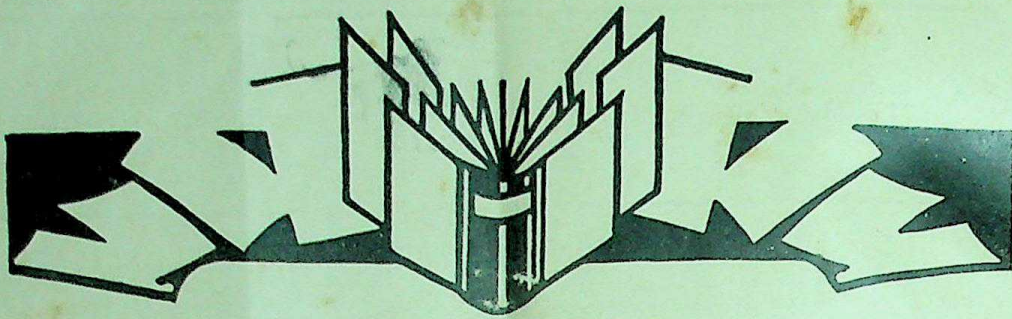
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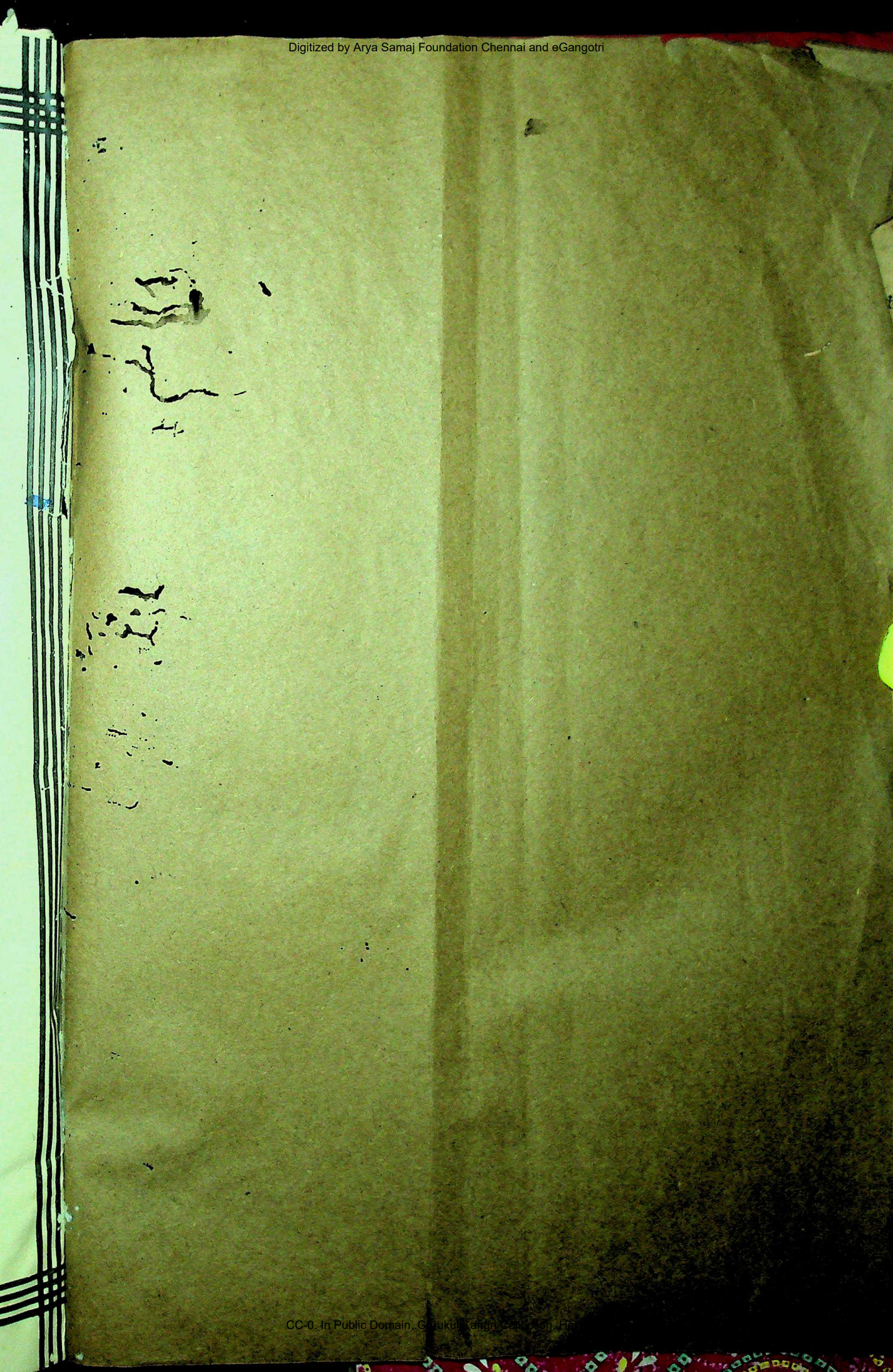
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